

U.N. resumes Gulf efforts

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar announced Tuesday that his special envoy would launch a round of shuttle diplomacy in an effort to break the deadlock in the Iran-Iraq peace talks. Perez de Cuellar told a news conference that Ambassador Jan Eliasson, his representative to the Iran-Iraq negotiations, will travel between the Iranian and Iraqi capitals at the end of October. "His mission is not simply to visit Tehran and Baghdad... he will shuttle between capitals until he can tell us how we can resume talks with the two parties," the U.N. chief said. "He is to clarify the positions of the parties and find a way out." The secretary-general said he was optimistic "because I believe both countries want and need peace... We need to see if the parties have moved from their initial negotiation position to more flexible positions." He also said he expected to see the foreign ministers of both Iran and Iraq during the current General Assembly session and the three-week general debate, which begins next Monday.

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Hijacker surrenders

LAS PALMAS, Canary Islands (R) — A lone gunman hijacked a Moroccan airliner to Spain's Canary Islands Tuesday but later surrendered after releasing all six passengers, an Interior Ministry spokesman said. He said the man, armed with a sub-machinegun, gave himself up to police after negotiating with a Spanish government representative in Las Palmas at the island's Gando airport. The Royal Air Maroc twin-engine Fokker, with six passengers and two crew, was commandeered on a flight to Suvarra from El Ajim, in the formerly Spanish-ruled Western Sahara, annexed by Morocco. The hijack came less than a week before King Hassan of Morocco starts his first state visit to Spain next Monday. Police said the hijacker asked Spanish authorities over the plane's radio to publish a statement about the king's Madrid visit. Details of the statement were not immediately known. The plane landed at Las Palmas, on Grand Canary Island off the Western Sahara, at 3 p.m. (1400 GMT) after the pilot radioed that he was being held at gunpoint.

Qasem, Andersson discuss Mideast

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — The foreign ministers of Jordan and Sweden Tuesday discussed efforts for peace in the Middle East, the Lebanese situation and the state of negotiations between Iran and Iraq after eight years of war.

Marwan Al Qasem and Sten Andersson also reviewed Jordan-Swedish relations and cooperation and means to boost them, the Jordan News Agency, Petra said.

According to Petra, both ministers agreed that the best forum to work out a Middle East peace settlement was an international conference with the participation of all parties involved and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, it said.

Qasem and Andersson, who arrived here Monday to join King Hussein and Queen Silvia on a state visit to Jordan, exchanged views on various Arab and international political issues. Qasem reaffirmed the need for continued efforts to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of U.N. Security Council resolution 242, Petra reported.

Qasem praised Sweden's "positive and constructive position towards the issues of the region," the news agency said.

Andersson expressed his country's readiness to exert more efforts towards restoring peace in the Middle East, it added.

On the Lebanese situation, the two ministers reaffirmed that the Arab League welcomed the Arab League's decision to revive bid to end the Lebanese civil war.

They also reviewed the situation between Iraq and Iran and

agreed that there was an urgent need to hasten the process of negotiations and to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

The meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministry secretary-general and other senior officials as well as the Jordanian ambassador to Sweden.

According to sources quoted by Reuters, Qasem and Andersson also reviewed Egypt's efforts to bring about direct Israeli-Palestinian negotiations and Cairo's 10-point proposal over Israel's plan for Palestinian elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Qasem said Monday that the Egyptian proposal was more of a test of Israel's seriousness towards settling the Palestinian problem. Andersson, who visited Cairo and met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Palestine Liberation Organisation (P.L.O.) Chairman Yasser Arafat before arriving here, has said that Sweden welcomes the Egyptian initiative.

Andersson briefed Qasem on the outcome of his meetings with Mubarak and Arafat and of Egypt's readiness to host direct Palestinian-Israeli dialogue, according to the sources quoted by Reuters.

In an interview with the local press earlier this week, Andersson denied that Sweden was a direct mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict. "We are only trying to help the concerned parties to reach an agreement to end the conflict," he said adding that his meeting with Arafat was part of continuing Swedish-P.L.O. dialogue and a continuation of Stockholm's contribution to efforts for peace in the Middle East.

Angolan summit wants Savimbi to sign peace plan

KINSHASA (R) — Eight African heads of state seeking an end to Angola's 15-year civil war have drawn up a declaration which they hope rebel leader Jonas Savimbi will accept, official sources said.

But Savimbi, who heads the rightist UNITA rebels backed by South Africa and the United States, declined to attend Monday's one-day peace summit in Zaire.

The summit hoped to revive a collapsed ceasefire agreed in June but details of the declaration were not divulged.

Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda deplored Savimbi's absence. "Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko" invited him but he did not come," Kaunda, one of Africa's elder statesmen, told a news conference before leaving Zaire.

"Given that the invitation was directed to Savimbi himself the summit did not meet with any other representative."

Information spokesman Jorge Valentin and several other officials of Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) were outside the summit locale — Mobutu's yacht berthed about 50 kilometres from the capital Kinshasa — but were not invited aboard.

The summit was held in an atmosphere of crisis brought on by the collapse of the ceasefire which Savimbi and Angola's leader Jose Eduardo dos Santos agreed to in the Zairean city of Gbadolite. The rivals shook hands there for the first time to seal a truce accord but did not agree to it in writing.

The United States over the weekend reiterated its support for Savimbi but a State Department spokeswoman Monday noted his absence from the summit and said Washington urged all parties to take part.

Angola, at a previous summit in Harare in August with Savimbi again absent, won backing for its interpretation that the Gbadolite accord called for Savimbi to go into exile and for rebels to be integrated into Angola's ruling party.

Savimbi says he never agreed to exile and the U.S. State Department spokeswoman said Washington does not accept conditions of "exile, amnesty or integration" for UNITA and Savimbi as defined by dos Santos. The heads of state of Gabon, Angola, Zambia, Zaire, Zimbabwe, Congo, Mozambique and Sao Tome and Principe plan to hold another meeting in Gabon's capital Libreville at a date to be announced.



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor and King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia Tuesday visit the Shomari wildlife reserve (Petra photo)

Ibrahimi optimistic over Lebanon despite fighting

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Arab League envoy Lakhdar Al Ibrahimi said Tuesday he was optimistic about the prospects for peace in Lebanon despite continued fighting between rival forces.

Also Tuesday, a small bomb exploded outside the offices of American Express in east Beirut. The building suffered some damage, but no casualties were reported.

"Police said two people were killed and seven wounded in rocket and artillery exchanges between army troops loyal to army commander Michel Aoun and Syrian troops and allies along Beirut's dividing green line and in hills above the capital."

Rescue workers also retrieved three more bodies from under the rubble of a seven-storey apartment building, demolished in concentrated shelling of the slum of Haret Hreik Monday.

The new casualties raised the overall toll to 926 killed and 2,720 wounded since fighting erupted between Aoun's troops and Syrian forces March 8.

Three other bodies had been dug out from beneath the debris

Jordan welcomes revived Arab efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Tuesday welcomed a decision by the Arab League to revive the mission of a tripartite committee seeking an end to the conflict in Lebanon and said that there was urgent need to put an end to the long years of bloodshed and to enable Lebanon to exercise sovereignty on all its territory.

"A Foreign Ministry statement said Jordan welcomes the resumption of the tripartite committee's mission, which was originally initiated by the Casablanca Arab summit meeting held in May to end the crisis in Lebanon."

"Jordan supports the committee's revived task out of its belief in pan-Arab action and its keenness to safeguard solidarity among Arab countries and to preserve Arab rights and lands," the statement said. "It is time that the Arabs took the initiative to end the ordeal in Lebanon and to end the devastation that has been going on for years," it added.

and seven people have been wounded in the collapse of the Mokdad building.

Four of the dead belonged to the same family — a father and his three sons. The wife and the daughter were wounded.

No one claimed the attack against American Express, the first incident involving a U.S. target since relations with the rightists soared earlier this month.

Aoun consulted other Christian leaders Tuesday to decide if he could accept an Arab League peace plan designed to end Lebanon's 14 years of civil war. The plan would impose an immediate ceasefire.

The newspaper Al-Diyar, based in east Beirut, said Aoun met Samir Geagea, chief of the hardline Lebanese Forces militia, and sent an envoy to Patriarch Boutros Sfeir, spiritual leader of the Maronite Christians.

Sources close to Aoun said it might be a week before the Christians agreed on a response to the peace plan, which would also reform the Christian-dominated political system.

But Ibrahimi, who also met Aoun, said he expected the general to give him his official stand Wednesday.

Main points of the Arab plan

NICOSIA (R) — The Arab League committee charged with settling Lebanon's 14-year civil war has proposed a "national reconciliation charter" for Lebanon.

Following are main points of the proposed charter released late Monday through the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA).

— Executive power to lie with the prime minister, rather than the president as at present.

— The allocation of top political, civil service and military jobs to be abolished. The present unwritten system carves up top jobs between the various religious groups.

— The number of seats in parliament to be increased to 128 from the present 99, to be split equally between Christians and Muslims. Christians have a majority under the present system.

— Disarming all militias within six months of forming a

"national reconciliation government," which will implement the reform, and dismantling them within a year.

— Allowing all refugees who have fled Christian or Muslim-controlled areas since 1975 to return home.

— Securing Israel's withdrawal from its so-called "security-zone" in South Lebanon under U.N. supervision and the deployment of the Lebanese army in the area.

— Syrian troops to remain in Lebanon for up to two years to help the new government extend its authority over the whole of Lebanon. The two-year period to start once the reforms are in place and a new government and president are in office.

— Syrian troops to be redeployed after this two-year period in the eastern Bekaa Valley under an agreement with the new government on the size and duration of their presence.

said they fear the Communist Party — enshrined by the Soviet constitution as the country's "leading force" — is losing its grip on power as the legislature strengthens under Gorbachev's political reforms and frustrated citizens start taking local power into their own hands.

In a sign of frustration with top party bureaucrats, many of them, including a politburo candidate member, were defeated in March when they ran in the country's first contested legislative elections in more than seven decades.

Gorbachev said in July the key question for the Communist Party was renewing and improving its personnel. Changes must be made all the way up to the politburo, he said, and suggested the party congress be

moved ahead.

Convening in the Kremlin, the Central Committee set an agenda for the congress that includes a report on the progress of Gorbachev's economic, social and political reforms, consideration of party rules and electing new governing bodies of the party.

Two soldiers were killed in an exchange of gunfire when they tried to disperse crowds near the border of the disputed Azerbaijani territory of Nagorno-Karabakh — an official spokesman said Tuesday.

Interior Ministry spokesman Yuri Arshenyevsky told a news conference that two soldiers from an Interior Ministry security force were killed on Monday evening in the Agdam district near the border of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Al Hussein, King Gustaf open electricity centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — On the second day of his visit to Jordan, King Carl Gustaf of Sweden joined His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday in inaugurating a national electricity control centre set up by the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA).

The centre, which cost JD 5.6 million provided through a Swedish government grant and loans from Swedish banks, was carried out by a Swedish firm which began work on the project in 1986. The JEA took part in the project's design and technical aspects at all stages and provided part of the cost.

King Gustaf cut the tape and together with King Hussein toured the various sections and listened to a briefing on their functions by JEA engineers and officials.

The centre is supposed to control operations by various generating and distribution units through the national grid around the clock, the king was told.

King Gustaf remarked that JEA engineers ought to take extra care to avoid any wastage of generated power in course of supplying power to the subscribers. To do this, he added, one has to have an excellent knowledge of the electric system in operation and the potential of the national grid.

King Gustaf said the national grid in Sweden extends for about 1,700 kilometres from the north to the south of the country, and is being operated by a similar control centre. He also noted that the

national grids of Sweden and Norway were connected in 1915 in order to facilitate the exchange of electric power in Scandinavian countries.

King Gustaf voiced satisfaction with Jordanian-Swedish cooperation in electric power and noted that an international seminar on electric interconnection among Arab countries which opened here Tuesday was attended by Swedish experts and scholars. The seminar, he noted is bound to help transfer Sweden's electric power expertise to the Arab World.

King Gustaf later called at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and opened a new Environmental Research Centre (ERC), which will be concerned with providing directives and means for the protection of water, air and soil from pollution.

The new centre will conduct investigations and carry out studies to develop water and wastewater reuse methods suitable for Jordan and to establish scientific and technical cooperation links with regional and international organisations in the field of environmental research.

The ERC is also charged with carrying out research programmes on the environment in Jordan, providing consultancy services dealing with dangerous chemical substances related to the environment and following up research studies in these fields.

A briefing on the RSS operations was presented by its Presi-

dent Hani Al Mulqi, who noted that technical assistance received in terms of equipment, training and experts has accelerated the transfer of know-how to the RSS to enable it to serve the industrial development of Jordan.

King Gustaf and the accompanying delegation also visited the tomb of the late King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, founder of the Hashemite Kingdom, and laid a wreath on the tomb.

Later the Swedish monarch paid a visit to the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) where he was received by Minister of Water and Irrigation Muhammad Saleh Kilani and JVA President Mohammad Bani. Hani who both briefed him on the water and irrigation projects carried out in the valley and the services offered to citizens in the valley in order to improve their living conditions.

He was also received by Balqa Governor and senior government officials.

King Gustaf was accompanied on his visits by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid.

Later Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor accompanied by the Swedish king and Queen Silvia on a visit to the Shomari wildlife preserve near Azraq.

King Hussein and Queen Noor attended a reception hosted by King Gustaf and Queen Silvia in Amman Sunday evening. The reception was also attended by royal family members and senior officials.

Israelis let Palestinian die of diabetes in prison

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian prisoner died from diabetes in Israel's Kezotzi desert prison camp although his jailors knew he was too ill to be held in such extreme conditions, a doctor who treated him says.

Dr. Omar Firwanah, a fellow prisoner, said Mohammad Saleh Arifi, 57, died Aug. 10, two weeks after returning from an Israeli hospital where he was taken semi-conscious following a diabetic fit in prison.

The Israeli army said at the time that Arifi, from Gaza, died of natural causes and made no reference to his chronic illness.

Firwanah, a British-trained physician released from detention this month, said he told prison authorities Arifi had diabetes and dangerously high blood pressure and was too sick to be in jail.

"A man of his age with all these diseases should have been in a hospital, not in a prison," Firwanah told Reuters in an in-

terview. A forest fire raged out of control in a park south of Haifa. Israel radio said the blaze was probably started deliberately.

At least nine people were injured and thousands were evacuated as flames neared agricultural settlement and Haifa University campus.

Palestinian nationalists have caused damage worth millions of dollars by setting fire to Israeli woods and farmland during the uprising.

Elsewhere in the West Bank, soldiers opened fire on stone-throwing Palestinians in the village of Tubas. Villagers said several Arabs were beaten and arrested.

Four Palestinians from Jenin were wounded in demonstrations Monday night, residents said. Soldiers arrested several people and placed the town under curfew.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, hospital officials said Israeli

troops shot and wounded 10 Palestinians overnight, eight with live ammunition and two with metal bullets.

The army said it was checking the reports.

Meanwhile, two brothers suspected of collaborating with Israel went on a beating and stabbing rampage in Beit Sahour known as a stronghold of the Palestinian uprising, witnesses said Tuesday.

The incident, set off when the house of one brother was stoned by masked youths, reflects the growing tension between the youthful enforcers of the 21-month uprising and Palestinians accused to cooperation with Israel.

Among the victim's in the Monday night rampage was the town's mayor, Hanna Al Atrash, who reportedly was pulled from his car and held hostage for an hour. He was hospitalised Tuesday in Jerusalem with bruises and a cut on his head.

Shamir, Rabin meet amid reported 'coalition crisis'

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin held a private, hour-long meeting Tuesday but gave no sign they settled a cabinet dispute about Egypt's proposal to sponsor Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

Shamir refused to give details about his meeting with Rabin, who briefed the premier on his Monday talks in Cairo with President Hosni Mubarak.

"I won't speak about the conversation, but differences of opinion exist," Shamir said to reporters later. "The question is how to overcome them, if at all."

He said reporters should take note of his statement Monday night that he could not maintain his governing coalition "at any price."

Israeli newspapers, meanwhile, reported that leaders of the Labour Party of Vice Premier Shimon Peres were negotiating secretly with smaller religious parties to try to form a narrow governing coalition if the cabinet falls.

The controversy between the coalition partners, Likud and Labour, centres on right-wing opposition to Mubarak's 10-point proposal for breaking a stalemate

in Middle East peace efforts. Shamir is also concerned about Rabin's remarks at a Cairo news conference Monday, which hinted at official recognition of an indirect Palestine Liberation Organisation (P.L.O.) role in the peace process, Israeli radio stations reported.

Summing up his talks with Mubarak, Rabin said that Israel agreed to Egypt arranging an Israeli-Palestinian meeting. Egypt could put together the Palestinian delegation "after coordinating with various elements... including Israel," Rabin added.

Palestinian leaders interpreted Rabin's remarks as consent to Egypt's suggestion to include Arabs expelled by Israel from the occupied territories as negotiators, which would be a compromise between Israel and PLO demands.

"When Mr. Rabin announced himself that Egypt will announce the names of the Palestinian delegates, that means there's an agreement in principle... which is very important," Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij said on Israel radio.

Earlier this week Freij became the first Palestinian in the occu-

pied territories to publicly announce meeting PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, despite an Israeli-law banning such contacts.

Shamir did not respond to directly Rabin's remarks, except to hint that his fractious governing coalition, put together last December, was in trouble.

"I personally would like to see the coalition remain, but I must say that unity is not worth any price," he said Monday night.

Shamir also is under heavy pressure from Likud hardliners who oppose Egypt's plan, primarily because it urges Israel to accept the principle of trading territory for peace.

"Before even starting negotiations we're already conceding. Israel will end up not at the 1967 borders but at the 1947 lines," Industry Minister Ariel Sharon said, referring to the U.N. partition plan of 42 years ago which envisaged an Israel about a third of its present size.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens spoke played down the crisis and expressed hopes a government breakup could be avoided. "We have coalition crises here an average of about once a month, so we need another crisis today," Arens said.

Soviet congress brought forward to speed up reforms

MOSCOW (AP) — The Communist Party's leadership, meeting Tuesday in an attempt to cool ethnic tensions across the Soviet Union, moved up the party's next congress to October 1990, giving President Mikhail S. Gorbachev his best chance yet to transform the party.

The Central Committee of 5,000 delegates began meeting to discuss ethnic tensions that stretch from the Baltic coast to the Chinese border, TASS news agency said. The Central Committee is the party's policy-making body.

But the first thing it did was move up the party congress, usually held every five years. The last one — the party's 27th — was held in February 1986, less than a year after Gorbachev took power. By party

regulations, the next congress would not have had to take place before early 1991.

The congress, theoretically, is the 20-million-member party's most important gathering that outlines policy and determines membership of the Central Committee and ruling politburo. It historically has reviewed the leadership's five-year economic plans.

"The decision to convene the congress at an earlier date is dictated by the need to thoroughly update the party itself, with regard to its new role as the political vanguard of society during the state of restructuring," Gorbachev told the Central Committee.

He said the need to renew the party reached the Central Committee, itself.

Gorbachev expressed con-

cern that the party is lagging behind the political reforms he has set in motion, including shifting more political power to elected government bodies.

"Real life, the reconstruction forces are going at such a rhythm that we often cannot catch up with them," the 58-year-old party chief and Soviet president told the Central Committee.

He said many party organisations were slow to grasp the need for change, and "in this, we lose a great deal."

"We cannot leave things as they are, especially since fundamental economic and social processes are unfolding and an ideological and political struggle is under way over key problems of social development," Gorbachev said.

Some party stalwarts have

said they fear the Communist Party — enshrined by the Soviet constitution as the country's "leading force" — is losing its grip on power as the legislature strengthens under Gorbachev's political reforms and frustrated citizens start taking local power into their own hands.

In a sign of frustration with top party bureaucrats, many of them, including a politburo candidate member, were defeated in March when they ran in the country's first contested legislative elections in more than seven decades.

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Arab League sees Nov. 22 as target for Lebanon peace pact

UNITED NATIONS (R) — An Arab League envoy has said that Lebanon's civil war was on the brink of resolution and there were hopes agreement could be reached by Nov. 22, the country's Independence Day.

Elaborating on Arab proposals announced at the weekend to end the 14-year-old war, the Arab League ambassador to the United Nations, Clovis Maksoud, told a news conference.

"The situation in Lebanon at this moment is, I can say, on the brink of resolution. We hope by the time of independence day we would have fulfilled all talks... that is the target date."

He said Nov. 22 might be "partly wishful thinking but it is a plan."

He said it was hoped by then a ceasefire would be completely in force, a new president would

have been elected and a government of national reconstruction ensued.

Maksoud was asked about Lebanese Christian leader General Michel Aoun, who has demanded written guarantees that Syria would withdraw its troops from Lebanon as his condition for accepting the plan proposed by an Arab League committee comprising Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia.

The ambassador said Aoun made his statement before weekend discussions with Arab League mediators on the gradual

redemption of Syrian troops, which is to be written into a final agreement.

"The Arab League is the ultimate guarantor of all commitments and I think all parties involved, including General Aoun have enough confidence to accept them," he said. "There are lingering pockets of resistance but they are isolated."

On the question of whether Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat would address the United Nations this year, Maksoud said he did not know if Arafat had made a decision yet.

"But if he decides to come, we hope the United States, following the experience they had last year, would grant the visa as a matter of course without giving any heed to the Israeli lobby and their friends," he said.

After Arafat was refused a visa

by the United States, the U.N. General Assembly moved its session to Geneva last December.

"If the visa is not granted, of course we would want to go back to Geneva," Maksoud said.

Security Council members said the 15-member body was considering issuing a statement supporting efforts by the three-nation Arab committee on its efforts to bring peace to Lebanon.

"Hopefully we will be able to do that by tomorrow," Council President Paulo Nogueira-Batista of Brazil told reporters Monday after consultations with Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. "But this is a very complex and delicate question and we wish to proceed in a very careful way, prudently, so as to achieve maximum acceptance of what we may have to say," he added.



A man reads a newspaper in front of a shell-pocked wall of the Saudi Arabian embassy in west Beirut. The embassy was hit by at least seven shells during the battles between Syrian and Falangist forces.

Radio stations are life-savers for Lebanese

By Rima Salameh
The Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Yehya Mansour could hear the crump of exploding artillery shells as he flipped his radio from one station to another, trying to get a fix on which neighbourhoods were being hit by the Falangist guns.

The Falangist Voice of Lebanon reported that the Syrians, firing from mainly Muslim west Beirut where Mansour lives, were hitting the Ashrafieh district in east Beirut.

That was enough for Mansour. He and his wife grabbed their two daughters. They ran down the stairs to shelter in the basement of their apartment block in west Beirut's Verdun neighbourhood.

Mansour, a 42-year-old bank clerk has learned in six months of artillery battles between the Syrians and Falangists that when Ashrafieh gets hit, the Falangists respond by shelling Verdun. "Thank God for the radios," Mansour said as he settled the family in the shelter. "They're our lifeline, our companion."

"If it wasn't for them, we wouldn't know what was going on. We couldn't get by without them."

For Beirutis, radios are as important for survival as their basement bunkers. Everyone keeps their radios on all the time, waiting for the flashes that will send them to their bunkers.

Beirut has five radio stations that are either for Falangist or for the opposition.

Many families use four or five transistor radios tuned to different stations for news of the fighting, in which more than 900 people have been killed and more than 2,700 wounded since March 8.

Beirut's stations also broadcast survival tips such as how to minimise the effect of shrapnel or how to keep children amused in the long hours in the bunker.

During heavy shelling, the radios drop their regular programmes of music, comedy shows and dramas to broadcast messages from Beirutis to families and friends to assure them they're safe.

"Salami Abul Mouna is trapped in his office. He assures his family in Verdun he is safe," an announcer said on the Voice of the People, run by the Lebanese Communist Party, as Mansour listened.

"That's our son," Mansour's wife Munira shouted with joy. "Thank God he's alive."

That night, the Voice of the People, read out hundreds of messages from Beirutis for four straight hours.

Hanna Saleh, Voice of the People's general manager, said the station is a "link that connects thousands of families throughout Lebanon every day."

The Voice of Lebanon, run by the Falange Party, has a big audience in the Arab World and Western Europe for its daily "reunion of the beloved" programme in which Lebanese send tape-recorded messages to relatives abroad to let them know they're alive and well.

But reporters risk their lives to hop from one stricken district to another to feed on-the-spot reports back to their stations by radio telephone.

"I feel I'm providing a humanitarian service," said Nafiz Kawas, a Sunni Muslim reporter with the Voice of the Nation. "People depend on me to know what's happening."

Some of the radio stations have gone underground themselves in escape the shelling. It's a measure of the intensity of the bombardment that they didn't feel the need to do that before in Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war.

The 12-storey Voice of Lebanon building has taken six direct hits. Voice of the Nation's eight-floor building has been hit once.

The state-run Beirut Radio has been hit several times. Only the Voice of the People and the Voice of Free Lebanon, run by the Falangist Lebanese Forces militia, have escaped unscathed.

Voice of Lebanon, its main eighth-floor studios badly exposed to Syrian shelling, has set up a sandbagged "emergency newsroom" on the less vulnerable first floor.

Voice of the Nation has set up a newsroom, control room, workshop and library in the basement of its building.

Like the other stations, it has also set up living quarters for its staff, so they can stay at the station for days on end during heavy periods of bombardment.

"We can take up to 40 people at a time," said Mohammad Mashmouk, who heads the committee that runs the station. "We've got mattresses, refrigerators, water and food in the basement."

"Our people get their meals from the Makkassed hospital nearby. A van shuttles back and forth with nice hot meals."

The station has adapted its work schedules because of the shelling so that teams of personnel work "one week in, one week out," Mashmouk noted.

"Many of our people have taken their families out of Beirut for safety and this was the most convenient solution so that they will come to work," he explained.

Egypt again heads Mideast diplomacy

By John Fullerton
Reuters

CAIRO — Egypt has once again emerged as the centre of Middle East diplomacy, with Israeli and Palestinian leaders shuttling to and fro to press their views on how to achieve peace in the region.

Two old foes in the Arab-Israeli conflict, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, met in private for two hours in Cairo Monday and said they agreed on a need for Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who seldom broadcasts his travel plans for security reasons, was expected in Cairo for his third round of talks with Mubarak in eight days, Egyptian officials told reporters.

Mubarak, a former air force commander, stressed after meeting Rabin, a former armed forces chief of staff, that more negotiations were needed on the makeup of a Palestinian delegation for talks with Israel.

Mubarak, seen as a mere caretaker when he succeeded assassinated President Anwar Sadat in 1981, has now pushed Egypt to the forefront of peace efforts in the region.

Egypt was formally readmitted to Arab ranks last May after a 10-year split caused by Sadat's 1979 treaty with Israel.

The pact remains intact, allowing Mubarak to talk directly to Israel and its main backer, the United States, while maintaining close ties with Arafat and his followers.

from outside should also be included.

The Egyptian leader also stressed to journalists that his controversial 10 points submitted to Israel on possible elections in the occupied territories were not conditions.

Instead, he said, they formed questions designed to clarify for Palestinians what would be achieved if the elections proposed by Israel were held.

Rabin, who later left Egypt after touring the Pyramids and laying a wreath on Sadat's grave, was followed into Cairo by Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

Qian said on arrival from Jordan that China, a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, wanted to help to secure peace in the Middle East.

Mubarak himself has become chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), a key member of the Non-Aligned Movement and self-appointed spokesman on third world debt relief.

After his talks with Mubarak, Rabin said Egypt would announce the identity of Palestinian delegates to any direct peace talks with Israel in Cairo.

But it was not clear how far he spoke for his cabinet colleagues. His visit to Cairo had already widened a split in Israel's coalition government between the dovish Labour Party and the hawkish Likud Bloc.

Rabin cautioned that some Israelis wanted only Palestinians from the Israeli-ruled West Bank and Gaza Strip to take part in talks. Mubarak said Palestinians

from outside should also be included.

The Egyptian leader also stressed to journalists that his controversial 10 points submitted to Israel on possible elections in the occupied territories were not conditions.

Instead, he said, they formed questions designed to clarify for Palestinians what would be achieved if the elections proposed by Israel were held.

Rabin, who later left Egypt after touring the Pyramids and laying a wreath on Sadat's grave, was followed into Cairo by Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

Qian said on arrival from Jordan that China, a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, wanted to help to secure peace in the Middle East.

Rafsanjani ready to expand Iran-Gulf ties

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — President Hashemi Rafsanjani of Iran Tuesday stressed his country's willingness to expand its relations with Gulf Arab nations, the Islamic News Agency (IRNA) reported.

The agency said Rafsanjani made the comment at a meeting in Tehran with the newly appointed Iranian ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, Mohammad Ali Hadi Najafabadi.

The federation of emirates is a traditional trading post for Iranian merchants and also home for many expatriate Iranian traders.

The Iranian news agency, monitored in Cyprus, quoted Rafsanjani as emphasising Iran's willingness to further expand its relations with Muslim and neighbouring countries. It gave no direct quotes.

Rafsanjani expressed the hope that Najafabadi, who enjoys what the agency called an "outstanding" revolutionary background, would work for improvement of ties and promotion of security in the region.

He was quoted as saying that the appointment of such a personality to the post was indicative of the importance Iran attaches to the southern Gulf littoral states.

Najafabadi, appointed to the UAE post last week, holds a degree in theology and a Master's degree in international affairs, the agency said. He has served as a member of Iran's Majlis, or parliament, and was head of its Foreign Relations Committee.

Iran also has appointed an Ambassador to Kuwait, marking a sharp improvement in relations following the Gulf war, when Kuwaiti coastal facilities were hit by Iranian missiles.

Rafsanjani has been working to improve his relations with the pro-Western Gulf states, including Saudi Arabia, although any bettering of ties with Riyadh faces major obstacles.

Relations between Iran and the Arab oil giant fell to their lowest point two years ago when more than 400 pilgrims, most of them Iranian, were killed in riots in the Muslim holy city of Mecca.

Ties with France

Meanwhile the English language Tehran Times said in an editorial Tuesday that an improvement in relations between Iran and France, should not be upset by "temporary political bubbles."

"Expansion of ties with Iran must not become a partisan battle or a means for resolving internal power struggles," the paper said.

It said, without elaborating, that several past attempts at improving relations failed because of power struggles in France. It also urged political factions in Iran not to create problems for officials over issues that have been "carefully studied."

The editorial, quoted by the Islamic Republic News Agency, was printed during a visit to the Iranian capital by Francois Scherer, director-general of the French Foreign Ministry.

The Tehran Times, which is aligned with the "pragmatic" faction of Rafsanjani, said relations between France and Iran should be based on "strategic

goals" of the two countries.

France could become an "indispensable partner" of Iran because of its technical and scientific capabilities, especially in atomic energy, heavy industries and commerce, the newspaper said.

Now that the two countries were working to improve relations, the process should not be subject to "temporary political bubbles," the newspaper said.

The pragmatists in Iran have been working for a rapprochement with France and other Western countries as a means of pulling Iran out of its isolation. They are opposed by radicals who are devoted to an Islamic revolutionary line.

On Monday, IRNA reported that Scheer agreed with Iranian officials on a speedup in efforts to solve a financial dispute between the two countries.

Relations between Paris and Tehran have been soured by the issue of a \$1 billion loan made by Iran to France under the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, and not repaid to date.

Israel hopes Hungary is 1st step to East Bloc ties

TEL AVIV (R) — Hungary's restoration of full diplomatic relations has raised Israel's hopes that other East European countries will also decide to reestablish links after a break of two decades.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, on a lightning four-hour trip to Budapest, signed a diplomatic accord Monday that capped years of efforts by the Jewish state.

He called it an historic day and looked toward the upgrading of diplomatic relations in other East Bloc states, including the Soviet

Union, which severed ties over the 1967 Middle East war.

"I think it stands to reason that the moves taken by the Hungarian government will make an impression on other Eastern Bloc countries," Arens told reporters on returning to Israel.

The restoration of full ties with Budapest came two years after the countries first agreed to the intermediate step of exchanging interest sections.

Israel also has an interest section in Poland. But hopes for an early exchange of ambassadors

have been complicated by a dispute over a Roman Catholic convent that Jews want removed from the site of the former Auschwitz Nazi death camp.

Israel's ultimate target is restoration of ties with the Moscow, which orchestrated the 1967 break. East Germany never had diplomatic ties with Israel and Romania did not break links.

The Soviet Union and Israel exchanged consular delegations more than a year ago under the guise of examining property claims in each other's country. Israel's desire for relations with

Eastern Europe is fired by economic, political and cultural needs. Many Israelis trace their roots to the Jewish communities of Eastern Europe. Some 100,000 Jews live in Hungary, the second largest Jewish community in the region after the Soviet Union, and Israelis hope it could be another source of immigrants.

Politically, Israel would like the legitimacy that comes from wider recognition by both Eastern and Western powers. It has often felt it faced an automatic hostile majority in world bodies, such as the United Nations.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Chinese foreign minister meets Mubarak

CAIRO (AP) — China's foreign minister told President Hosni Mubarak Tuesday that the situation in China has stabilised after the anti-government student turmoil of early summer. Qian Qichen, who arrived Monday for a three-day official visit, also told reporters he delivered to Mubarak a message from Chinese President Yang Shangkun. The minister did not disclose the contents. Qian briefed reporters after speaking with Mubarak at the presidential office. He spoke in Chinese through an Arabic interpreter. "I informed President Mubarak about conditions in China at the political and economic level (and told him) the situation has become stable," Qian said without giving details. The Chinese diplomat is on a four-nation tour of Arab countries that began in Jordan. He travels to Tunisia and Syria after the Egypt visit. Qian said Mubarak briefed him on the latest developments in Arab-Israeli peace efforts.

Japan to give aid to ICRC in Lebanon

TOKYO (R) — Japan will give \$1 million in emergency aid to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) helping war victims in Lebanon, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday. Japan has already forwarded 30 million yen (about \$200,000) to the ICRC this year in response to its appeal. "The government of Japan expresses anew its strong expectation that the fighting will be brought to an end quickly through the utmost restraint of those concerned," a ministry statement said.

Bulgarian Turks leaving Turkey

ISTANBUL (AP) — The arrivals of ethnic Turkish emigrants from Bulgaria has gone down to a trickle in recent weeks while a reverse exodus has begun of emigrants returning home, Turkish officials said Monday. Police and border officials in Edirne said 18,000 have crossed back into Bulgaria so far and 500 are returning daily. The ethnic Turks began going back to Bulgaria after the Turkish government started requiring visas from the emigrants Aug. 22 to stop the influx. Those returning cite separation from family members left behind and difficulty of finding jobs and housing in Turkey.

Turkish Cypriot court frees fishermen

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — A Turkish Cypriot court released on bail two Greek Cypriot and a Lebanese fishermen Monday, four days after they were arrested on charges of violating Turkish Cypriot waters. The court fined the fishermen 600,000 Turkish liras (\$300). The fishermen were identified as Greek Cypriots Evangelou Kosta and Kristaki Kosta, and Lebanese Antonis Mahrur. They were convicted of violating what Turkish Cyprus considers its territorial waters, near the port city of Kyrenia. The fishermen said they came close to Kyrenia unintentionally when the engine of their boat broke down. The fishermen asked permission from the court to stay in the northern part of the divided island until their boat was repaired. The request was granted.



An old woman passes by a shell-pocked building in west Beirut.

| JORDAN TELEVISION | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tel: 77311-19 | |
| PROGRAMME ONE | |
| 15:30 | Koran |
| 15:40 | Programme review |
| 15:45 | Children's programmes |
| 17:00 | Alpha |
| 17:30 | Educational programme |
| 18:00 | News summary in Arabic |
| 18:05 | Cairo News Message |
| 18:25 | Local programme |
| 18:30 | Local programme |
| 19:00 | Programme review |
| 20:00 | News in Arabic |
| 20:30 | Arabic series |
| 21:40 | Local programme |
| 22:25 | Wrestling |
| 23:10 | Varieties programme |
| PROGRAMME TWO | |
| 18:10 | Loft story |
| 18:30 | Des Chiffres Et de Lettres |
| 19:00 | News in French |
| 19:15 | Documentary |
| 19:30 | News in Hebrew |
| 20:00 | News in Arabic |
| 20:30 | You can't take it with you |
| 21:10 | Doc. "Battle Line" |
| 22:00 | News in English |
| 22:20 | Best seller: "Master of the Game" |
| PRAYER TIMES | |
| 05:00 | Fajr |
| 06:17 | Sunrise (Dah) |
| 12:20 | Dhuhr |
| 15:50 | Asr |
| 18:41 | Maghrib |

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

| CHURCHES | |
|---|-----------------------|
| St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetfiah, Tel. 810740 | |
| Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785 | |
| St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590 | |
| Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440 | |
| De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 | |
| Terraviva Church Tel. 622366 | |
| Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541 | |
| Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543 | |
| Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 711331 | |
| Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261 | |
| St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751 | |
| Assiout International Church Tel. 683326 | |
| Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295 | |
| The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264 | |
| WEATHER | |
| Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. | |
| It will be relatively hot and dry and winds will be southerly moderate causing dust in desert areas. In Amman, it will be dusty with northerly moderate wind and calm seas. | |
| USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS | |
| NIGHT DUTY | |
| AMMAN: | |
| Dr. Nabil Al Muhaseb | 775050 |
| Dr. Nabil Al Muhaseb | 828252 |
| Dr. Amjad Nawras | 781806 |
| Dr. Mohammad 'Isam | 623999 |
| Firas pharmacy | 649495 |
| Ferdous pharmacy | 778336 |
| Al Asana pharmacy | 637055 |
| Nasrallah pharmacy | 623672 |
| Al Salam pharmacy | 636730 |
| Yacoub pharmacy | 649495 |
| Shamsi pharmacy | 637660 |
| IRBID: | |
| Dr. Kamal Al Najjar | (—) |
| Al Shamsi pharmacy | (985238) |
| EMERGENCIES | |
| Civil Defence Department | 661111 |
| Civil Defence Immediate | 630341 |
| Rescue | 199 |
| Rescue Police | 192, 621111, 637777 |
| Fire Brigade | 891228 |
| Blood Bank | 775121 |
| Highway Police | 843402 |
| Traffic Police | 296390 |
| Public Security Department | 630321 |
| Hotel Complaints | 603800 |
| Price Complaints | 661176 |
| Water and Sewerage | 897467 |
| Complaints | 661176 |
| Amman Municipality | 787111 |
| Complaints | 787111 |
| Telephone Information | 121 |
| Directorate assistance | 010230 |
| Overseas Calls | 623101 |
| Central Amman Telephone | 661101 |
| Abdali Telephone Repairs | 771111 |
| Jordan Television | 774111 |
| Radio Jordan | 680100 |
| Water Authority | 680100 |
| Jordan Electricity Authority | 815615 |
| HOSPITALS | |
| AMMAN: | |
| Hussein Medical Centre | 813813/2 |
| Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. | 642816 |
| Al-Hil Maternity, J. Amn. | 642412 |
| Jabal Amman Maternity | 642362 |
| Melhus, J. Amman | 636140 |
| Palestine, Shamsi | 661714 |
| Shamsi Hospital | 669131 |
| University Hospital | 845845 |
| Al-Munaster Hospital | 6672719 |
| The Islamic, Abdali | 66512737 |
| Al-Hil, Abdali | 6641646 |
| Italian, Al-Muhajreen | 777101/3 |
| Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh | 775111/26 |
| Arzy, Marka | 891611/15 |
| Queen Alia Hospital | 6024050 |
| Amal Hospital | 674155 |
| ZARQA: | |
| Zarqa Govt. Hospital | (09)983323 |
| Zarqa National Hospital | (09)991071 |
| Bin Sina Hospital | (09)986732 |
| IRBID: | |
| Princess Basma Hospital | (02)275555 |
| Greek Catholic Hospital | (02)272775 |
| Ibn Al Nafies Hospital | (02)247100 |
| AQABA: | |
| Princess Haya Hospital | (03)314111 |
| FOR THE TRAVELLER | |
| QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT | |
| This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (09)5200-5 where it should always be verified. | |
| ARRIVALS | |
| Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) | |
| 10:10 | Jeddah (RJ) |
| 10:15 | Amman (RJ) |
| 10:30 | Amman (RJ) |
| 10:45 | Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) |
| 11:00 | Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ) |
| 11:15 | Larnaca (RJ) |
| 17:45 | Cairo (RJ) |
| 18:00 | Riyadh (RJ) |
| 18:20 | Brussels, |

Saudi envoy praises relations with Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Jordan Tuesday lauded the strong brotherly ties between his country and Jordan and said that bilateral ties are based on mutual respect and the strong belief of common destiny.

Mohammad Al Fahd Al Issa said in a statement to Petra: "Thanks to the efforts and leadership of His Majesty King Hussein and King Fahd, bilateral relations are exemplary and are continually progressing."

The ambassador made the statement on the eve of his country's National Day anniversary which falls on Sept. 23.

He noted that Saudi Arabia and Jordan are linked through a number of agreements designed to serve the peoples of the two

countries in a number of fields; and added that Amman and Riyadh maintain full coordination of policies at the highest level with regard to all current Arab affairs.

The ambassador paid tribute to Jordan's pan-Arab stands and said: "Jordan has been exerting all its efforts to protect the longest confrontation line with the common enemy and serving all Arab causes in general and the Palestine cause in particular."

Referring to the Jordanian manpower employed in Saudi Arabia, the ambassador said Jordanians are rendering a real service to Saudi Arabia, and they enjoy deep respect from the Saudi government and the people.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

SHARIF ZAID RECEIVES ENVOYS: Prime Minister Sharif Zaid bin Shaker Tuesday received in two separate meetings the ambassadors of Belgium and Switzerland who both called on his office to bid farewell to him on the end of their tour of duty in Jordan. (Petra)

ASSAD MEETS ENVOYS: Higher Education Minister Nassereddin Al Assad Tuesday received in two separate meetings the Ambassador of Syria and East Germany and discussed with them means of enhancing cooperation in the fields of education and culture and broadening the base of admission at their countries' universities. Meanwhile in Damascus, Syrian Higher Education Minister Kamal Sharaf reviewed with Jordan's ambassador to Syria Nayef Al Hadid bilateral relations and scopes of cooperation in the higher education, with main focus on admission of Jordanian students at the Syrian universities. (Petra)

JORDAN INTERLINE CLUB WINS AWARDS: In the 22nd annual general assembly of the World Airlines Clubs Association that took place in Delhi, India, between Sept. 3-9, 1989, Jordan Interline Club received two awards out of seven. The first award was for "Best Interline Club for 1989 for the Near East and Africa Region" and the second for "The Best International Interline Event for 1989" among 90 clubs around the world. (J.T.)

ACC group urges campaigns to stem diseases in animals

BAGHDAD (Petra) — A committee entrusted with supervising livestock health and production in the four Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries has recommended wide-scale campaigns to be conducted in the four countries to stem infectious diseases among animals.

The committee's recommendation, which came in a statement at the end of a meeting held here, also called on concerned parties to conduct a feasibility study to set up a joint veterinary drug industry to provide veterinary medicines to the four countries: Egypt, Jordan, North Yemen and Iraq.

The committee also urged concerned parties to exchange information and expertise in matters related to the treatment of animals, to chart a coordination plan for producing vaccines and to coordinate work among veterinary institutions in the ACC states.

The committee which comprised experts from the four ACC states, decided to set up a work team to supervise coordination in these matters and to facilitate the flow of information and expertise among the concerned parties.

The work team will organise periodic meetings and follow up the implementation of agreements.

Jordan, Italy sign programme to implement agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Italy Tuesday signed an executive programme for the implementation of a 1989-1991 cultural agreement which calls for cooperation in the fields of education, arts, archaeology, science, sports, youth and information.

Both sides agreed on increasing close cooperation in matters of concern to universities and institutes of higher learning in both countries and on exchanging visits by researchers and university professors.

They agreed on setting up a joint committee to supervise the equivalence of certificates issued by Jordanian and Italian universities and to exchange teaching material, textbooks and scholarships.

Under the programme, the two sides pledge to increase cooperation in documentation, archives, and library work, and to exchange publications on cultural and social life in the two countries.

Also under the programme, Italian and Jordanian archaeological teams will join together to conduct restoration work at the ancient Nabatean city of Petra, Madaba, Jerash, Shouk, Wadi Al Yabis and Mawaghar.

In the higher education area, the two sides will exchange scientific research data and in the youth fields, they will cooperate in sports through youth organisations in Italy and Jordan.

The programme was signed by Ministry of Planning Secretary General Dr. Safwan Touqan and Italian Ambassador to Jordan Francesco De Curten.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ The Indian Trade Fair at the International Fair Centre, Marj Al Hammam. Open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for business visitors and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. for general public.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Omar Bouat at Irbid's Young Women's Centre.
- ★ A photo exhibition, with video shows and booklets, on the history of the Monarchy in Sweden at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ A photo exhibition by French artist Jean-Noel de Soye displaying photos projecting fashion accessories such as jewelry, caps, scarfs and belts, at the French Cultural Centre (the exhibition also displays slides on the history of fashion).

LECTURES

- ★ A lecture, in French, entitled "Nabateans in the middle of Jordan — Tannour and Dareth archaeological sites" by Francois Villeneuve at the French Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.
- ★ A lecture, in Arabic, on Israeli atrocities in the occupied territories by Dr. Samir Khalil at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.
- ★ A lecture, organised by Amideast, entitled "Standardised tests required by U.S. colleges and universities" at the American Centre — 3:00 p.m.

MUSIC

- ★ A Romance Recital by the Swedish Baritone Ole Persson, accompanied by pianist Mats Jansson at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

Queen Silvia briefed on Jordan's centres for health, handicapped

By Hind-Lara Mango
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordanian-Swedish cooperation in health issues and care for the disabled and needy came into the focus Tuesday, the first full day of a state visit to Jordan by King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden.

Accompanied by Her Majesty Queen Noor, the Swedish queen visited three institutions closely involved in health and social welfare affairs in Jordan — the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), the umbrella organisation for most social and welfare organisations in the Kingdom, the Institute for Child Health and Development, in Sweileh, and the Al Hussein Society for the Physically Handicapped.

At the NHF, Queen Silvia was briefed by Mrs. In'am Al Mufti, the foundation's director, on the activities and programmes it has undertaken with particular focus on the National Music Conservatory, which offers young Jordanians the opportunity to explore and develop their musical talents; the Theatre in Education programme, promoting dramatic arts in the Kingdom, and the Centre for Early Childhood Education, which seeks to enhance the development of pre-school children via the improvement of curricular materials and teacher proficiency.

Mufti also briefed on the Children's Heritage and Science Museum, and the Jubilee School for gifted students.

NHF Community Develop-

ment project products were also reviewed. They include the National Handicraft Development Project (rugs, cushions, etc.), all produced by the Bani Hamida women's weaving project and the Turath Centre in Jerash.

Queen Silvia presented the foundation with a collection of various educational toys, as well as equipment designed for children suffering from physical, developmental and mental handicaps. These will be distributed among the various projects that the foundation is implementing in the area of child care.

Queen Noor and Queen Silvia later proceeded to the Institute for Child Health and Development (ICHD). The two queens were accompanied by Minister of

Health and Social Development Zuhair Malhas, Sweileh Mayor Habes Obaidat, members of the board of the institute and Director Dr. Hind Dawany.

Dawany briefed the two queens on the programmes of the institute, which was established in 1986 as a joint Swedish-Jordanian project, with the objective of furthering national efforts in developing new and comprehensive methods of preventing health care for pregnant mothers and pre-school children.

Initially funded by Sweden through the Radda Barnen (Save the Children) Organisation, the institute is now under the administrative and financial control of the NHF.

In a speech she delivered at the institute, Queen Silvia said Sweden has always sought to provide children with services at the highest possible level and expressed her satisfaction that Radda Barnen could export these services to Jordan.

Describing Radda Barnen experts as "the best ambassadors of Sweden," the queen voiced hope that the ICHD "will continue to progress and provide the best services to the children of Jordan."

The institute seeks to improve growth monitoring practices by parents, conduct primary field research among children, train health workers and produce information material to promote parents' and teachers' awareness of early signs of childhood diseases and abnormalities.

Queen Silvia was later accompanied by Princess Majda Ra'ad to the Al Hussein Society for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped, where she was received by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma and the centre's children. Also present were society board mem-



Their Majesties Queen Silvia and Queen Noor are briefed by NHF Director In'am Al Mufti Tuesday on the foundation's programmes (Petra photo)

bers, and Swedish visitors including Swedish journalists.

Princess Majda, president of the society, welcomed Queen Silvia with a brief speech about the centre.

The centre was established in 1984 with the help of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund, and through a generous donation made by the Sultan Qaboos of Oman.

"Before we worked in improvised quarters for five years. Now, we have 170 students/patients, 60 staff members, 10 volunteers of different nationalities including two Swedish girls. In an annex, we have a vocational training school to which two new floors have been added as a result of a donation made by

a Jordanian family," Princess Majda said.

"We were also donated mobile clinic from the Italian government. We operate it jointly with the Cerebral Palsy Foundation so as to reach out and help a greater number of handicapped people," Princess Majda said.

Around 400 patients have received medical treatment from this clinic.

Queen Silvia, who has shown a keen interest in serving handicapped people, toured the centre, its classrooms, especially the first and third grades — two new additions — where classes were under way.

The queen also visited the occupational therapy section, the physiotherapy room, and the hydrotherapy room.

Bashaireh: Jordan has 46 community colleges

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Higher Education's Secretary General Ahmad Bashaireh said Tuesday that Jordan now has 46 community colleges providing training in 55 various specialisations, complementing the work of universities in Jordan.

He said that the increase in the number of community colleges in the Kingdom reflects the need for specialised training aimed at helping to promote development

in the country.

Bashaireh was addressing the opening session of a training seminar on methods of teaching and the use of technical aids in educational and vocational fields.

Bashaireh referred to the Arab Federation of Vocational Training and paid tribute to its achievements over the past 10 years. He noted that Jordan has been active in supporting the federation's activities and programmes.

EC experts explore Jordan's needs of modern technology

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two experts entrusted by the European Community (EC) to explore Jordan's requirements of modern technology and science for development Wednesday wind up a 20-day tour of the country's research and scientific centres and universities, and prepare for the second round expected in the coming months.

According to a statement by the EC office here, the two experts from Germany, Professor W. Gocht and Dr. D. Hoerster, visited the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, Jordan University of Science and Technology, the Royal Scientific Society and the Higher Council of Science and Technology.

They reviewed the implementation and the impact of the EC assistance provided in the past, especially the effectiveness

of the transfer of technology and cooperation links with European universities and institutions.

During the 1977-1987 period, the EC supported the development of science and technology in Jordan by providing grants totalling 16.7 million European Currency Units (ECU) to Jordanian universities and research institutions.

A further allocation of 5.5 million (ECU) has been granted for the period between 1988 and 1991, as part of the EC assistance programme to Jordan under the third protocol signed last year.

Seen in view of the past experience, the two experts had extensive discussions with Jordanian officials on objectives and identification of new activities to be financed by the EC in the science and technology sector in Jordan; according to the EC office state-

ment.

It said these activities focus on the implementation of the science and technology projects in research and higher education related to the requirements of the economic development of Jordan.

Many of these activities are envisaged as research cooperation and joint research programmes between the Kingdom and European institutions.

According to the EC statement, details of the activities will be worked out by the involved Jordanian universities and institutions during the next few months, and will be subject to a final round of discussions with the German experts before being submitted to the EC authorities for initiating their implementation during the first half of 1990.

Jordanian teenagers win Swedish honours

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — "When someone has a dream it is but a dream, but when everybody shares the same dream it becomes reality," — that is how a Colombian poet put it. The dream is peace and two young Jordanians are trying to make this possible.

Sweden's Life-Link, a global project for all young people, aims at instilling faith in today's youth about the future. The programme, through a writing competition, chose two Jordanians, a boy and a girl, to go to Sweden to attend an international seminar on peace.

Lara Smeir and Ahmad Al Salti, both 16, won seats at the conference after writing impromptu essays on what is threatening the planet earth and possible solutions.

Salti's essay focused on many ills facing the world but he stressed the essentiality of inner peace. "If we want to promote peace we have to be at peace with ourselves," he says. His essay addressed such problems as pollution, radiation and tradition-

al wars. Smeir's essay concentrated on the individual as the important player in global issues. "The individual is what matters, more than the government or anything else," Smeir believes that if individuals unite for a specific purpose they can succeed.

While in Sweden, the winners met with many other concerned young people. "We saw that we are not the only people (Arabs) with problems," Smeir told the Jordan Times upon their return to Amman. "Some of our problems in Jordan are the same as in other countries," she added.

The winning essays were selected by a committee which opened the contest to about eight or nine private schools in the Kingdom. The committee, which received approximately 800 essays from the students, also based their selection on personality.

Smeir and Salti plan to keep spreading the message of peace in the country and outside by setting up a Life-Link club and corresponding with other young adults.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE MINISTRY OF WATER AND IRRIGATION/ WATER AUTHORITY INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) TENDER NO. 39/89/VL SUPPLY OF GATE VALVES, CHECK VALVES AND BUTTERFLY VALVES

1. The Water Authority of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a loan from the World Bank in various currencies towards the cost of the water and sewerage project and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contracts for the purchase of gate valves, check valves and butterfly valves.
2. The Water Authority now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of gate valves, check valves and butterfly valves.
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from, and inspect the documents at, the office of the Secretary General of the Water Authority, Shmeisani, P.O. Box 2412, Amman, Jordan. Telephone 680100. Telex 22439 JO.
4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any eligible bidder on submission of a written application to the above address and the payment of non-refundable fee of JD 150.
5. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in the amount(s) specified in Section V Schedule of Requirements, and must be delivered to the above office not later than 12:00 hours, Jordan local time, Saturday Oct. 28, 1989.

Eng. Mutazz Belbelsi
Secretary General
Water Authority



ARAB BANK LTD.

DIRECT CONTACT

A newly developed service by the Arab Bank for the use of the

Automated Teller Machine (ATM)

Customers can now conduct the following banking operations by using their ATM Cards:

- Draw cash up to JD 400 from your account.
- Deposit (cash or cheque) in any of your accounts or the account of another person.
- Demand to know the balance of your deposits and obtain a summarised account statement.
- Demand a detailed account statement.
- Pay electricity bills by debiting your accounts.
- Direct transfer of deposits from your account to others in any of the Arab Bank branches in Jordan.
- Request a cheque book.



The Arab Bank has lately installed an ATM at its branch in Jabal Hussein and the ATM service is now available at the following branches:

- King Faisal Street
- Shmeisani
- Bayader Wadi Seer
- Fifth Circle
- Jubeiha Office
- Marka
- Jabal Hussein
- Abdali
- Jordan Intercontinental Hotel
- Gardens Office
- Ashrafieh Office.
- Zarqa
- Shafiq Irsheidat Off. (Irbid)

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Jordan Times

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Protect the environment

PRELIMINARY investigations confirmed Sunday that wanton negligence was the cause of the very dangerous leak of poisonous chlorine gas from a chemical plant in the Zarka area. On the very same day investigations also revealed that criminal intentions were behind the smuggling of raw fat in sewage dumping trucks to be used recklessly and dangerously in adulterating foodstuffs that Jordanians innocently consume every day unaware of the poisons that are constantly being poured into their blood veins often causing irreparable damage to their health.

Earlier on, mercury was discovered seeping into water streams leading to one of the important water dams in the country. This is not to mention the liberal use of pesticides and insecticides by the agricultural sector to an extent that also threatens life and health in the country. To be sure, there are many other violations of man's environment and his natural habitat in the country, some that have been discerned with little or no public outcry and others that have yet to be revealed and noticed.

All such grave incidents tell an ominous story that the country and people of Jordan have yet to acquire the environmental culture that seeks sources of pollution and violation of the environment and makes a concerted effort to address them. The laissez faire attitude that permeated life in Jordan for so long with regard to pollutants of nature and ravages to the environment is an integral part of the explanation of why we in Jordan have been plagued by silent neglect of environmental issues, be they in the industrial, agricultural, water or atmospheric sectors of life in the Kingdom.

All this suggests that governmental and non-governmental organisations concerned about stiffer environmental controls must seek new bold laws and the necessary potent and effective machinery to rectify the ongoing threats to the environment in Jordan. Perhaps even more important than legislation and the policing the implementation of such new legislation is an effort to make the public more aware of environmental considerations and to imbue in them the spirit to fight all forms of threat to their health. It has been the experience of all nations which achieved a remarkable degree of success in combating environmental threats that progress in this domain is achieved through public outcry. Only if the people can be drafted into the process against pollution in all its forms will the state be able to do something effective about it. All this leads us to an earlier decision to establish a consumer protection society. Such a society is an indispensable part of our fight against environmental threats. Jordan has yet to hear about the birth of that society.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

JORDANIAN dailies on Tuesday gave wide coverage of a visit to Jordan by King Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden, welcoming the monarch and the queen; and praising Sweden's stand vis a vis the Middle East issue and world problems.

Al Ra'i daily said that Swedish-Jordanian relations have always been marked with close cooperation and friendliness and mutual respect, deepened by the fact that Sweden has been playing major roles designed to serve the cause of world justice and peace. Sweden has also been playing a leading role in safeguarding the world's environment, thus providing an essential service to the whole international community, said the paper. Jordan has always looked to Sweden with appreciation and respect and for help to contribute towards the establishment of peace and an end to all regional conflicts; and indeed Sweden has always assumed its international responsibility in these matters and has always been keen on preserving world peace by adhering to its neutrality and positively contributing towards the enhancement of world peace, the paper added. Sweden's noble actions in these issues, the paper continued, were manifested in Stockholm's participation in peace-making efforts led by the United Nations by sending envoys to the troubled spots and contributed to the U.N. peace force around the world. Sweden has contributed a great deal towards the development in Jordan, said the paper, and the present royal visit is deeply appreciated by the Jordanian people.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily urges the government to take serious measures to deal with those tampering with public health and impose strict penalties on those responsible for the smuggling of fat unfit for human consumption. Salah Abdul Samad says that the smuggling of the contaminated fat should not be looked on as a mere smuggling case, but one that has serious consequences on public health. The incident clearly shows a disregard on the part of the perpetrators of all human considerations, and intended as a means to cause harm to Jordanian industries, the writer notes. He says it is a crime directed against the whole nation, committed in violation of all principles and social values. The writer calls for full investigation into the case by the military courts, and urges the health minister to cancel all licenses issued to restaurants and food shops that do not abide by the health safety regulations so as to ensure that no harm is being done to public health and no harm is caused to Jordanian industries which constitute a major source of foreign currency.

Al Dustour daily commended the strong friendly ties between Sweden and Jordan; and paid tribute to Stockholm's foreign policy. The numerous Swedish envoys who had played leading roles to enhance world peace stand out as witness of Sweden's peace oriented nature and its desire to provide assistance to other countries, said the paper. The Middle East region, the paper noted, is a troubled spot which awaits efforts by peace-loving nations like Sweden, and awaits justice for the oppressed Palestinians. The Palestine question and the Gulf situation are two dangerous spots, awaiting the full implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions through the help of peace-loving nations so that peace and justice can be re-established, said the paper.

ECOLIGHT

Who writes our economic agenda?

By Jawad Anani

MY HAPPINESS over the success of the government to effect monetary and foreign exchange stability is even greater than my satisfaction over Ed Koch's loss of his bid to win the U.S. Democratic Party nomination for New York mayorship. The recent pronouncements of Mr. Basil Jarrah, the minister of finance, to the Financial Times are reassuring. So were Dr. Mohammad Said Nabulsi's, the Central Bank governor, who spoke in the press in Tunis on Jordan's exchange rate stability. What is next on the economic agenda then? What problems are we going to tackle?

We have three major problems — rising cost of living, rising unemployment and slow investments. The three problems are interlocked and the solution to them cannot be as simple as the solution of the foreign exchange problem. We have to make sure that the system of trade — off between the solution of one problem and the aggravation of another does not create new uncertainties and chain reactions which would extend beyond our control.

Inflation is a price phenomenon in the domestic market and a cost phenomenon imported from abroad. In other words people

If success enlivens investments, then we should boldly focus our attention on decreasing government expenditure. Subsidies can be revised and made more specific; taxes should be collected more efficiently; and government investments must be sold and the proceeds go to cover our foreign debts. Thus the inflationary impact of increased investment can be partially offset by decreased government expenditure and enhanced family incomes.

Each step taken must be carefully calculated. However, we should have a comprehensive plan to discipline our subplans and executive decisions. Who is going to write the economic agenda? Naturally the concerned ministries should do it in close cooperation with the private sector. Once prepared, it should be approved by the new Parliament — so that the public is aware of the plan and its impact.

Our problems look serious. However, they can be resolved with well-designed plans and carefully executed actions. Yet, time is a valuable asset. The success in the first steps of monetary stabilisation should give us the courage to take other needed steps provided we move fast. To wait until after the forthcoming parliamentary elections could prove to be a costly decision.

are facing continuous commodity price adjustments by the rise in the cost of foreign inputs. Thus, people are paying more dinars for their needs, but these dinars are transferred (most of them) to foreign exporters. Therefore, our balance of payments may suffer from a greater deficit and may cause a further foreign exchange shock.

On the other hand, wages and salaries are kept at their nominal level, while their purchasing power is declining. How much further can we sustain the decline in real incomes — especially when we are paying more taxes and when job opportunities are not increasing at par with increase in the supply of labour?

Our economic agenda for the next four years (1990-1993) must be written now. It should include plans and alternative plans. We should draw plans with different scenarios to meet the challenge of the future. Priority should be given to the encouragement of investment, both domestic and foreign. The climate is quite conducive. If we succeed in doing that we will enhance job availability and thus improve family incomes and alleviate the pressure to increase wages. Funds for investment should be made available, reminding those concerned that funds are actually available for good projects.

Europeans redrawing continent's map

By Marcus Eliason
The Associated Press

LONDON — Fifty years after World War II, Europe is again in ferment. The post-war era is dawning.

As the western half of the continent approaches a watershed in the long trek toward union, its rival bloc to the east is falling to pieces. For Poland and Hungary, democracy beckons. East Germany, having spurned the new spirit of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, suffers the humiliation of more than 14,000 of its citizens fleeing west.

These refugees, most of them young and skilled, are the lifeblood of the 40-year-old Communist state. Yet they have chosen to cut themselves off from roots, friends and families and take their chances in the West.

The phenomenon is not new. Hundreds have died attempting to breach the 28-year-old Berlin wall or the watch-towered frontier that divides the Germans.

What is different is that they fled via Hungary, once one of the hard-line Eastern bloc countries, now reformed and liberalised in a manner that leaves its ally East Germany looking like a dinosaur. The whole continent of Europe

has embarked on an adventure. The geopolitical order that was imposed after World War II and defined by a closed border from the Baltic to the Adriatic is crumbling, and no one can say what finally will take its place.

"The new Europe" is not yet born, but it is gestating," writes Daniel Vernet, a senior editor of the French daily Le Monde.

Much depends on whether Gorbachev can keep control of the forces his reforms have unleashed. Will Moscow allow its satellites to fly into new, uncharted orbits? Can it contain the pent-up ethnic and nationalist rage simmering in Latvia, Georgia, Armenia, Uzbekistan and other Soviet republics? Can the West afford the kind of aid needed to keep the new democracies afloat?

There is widespread rejection of orthodox Communism and an admission of its political, economic and social failures.

United States of Europe?

Meanwhile, in Western Europe, the 12 states of the European Economic Community are about to pool their sovereignty and cement their political and economic union at the end of

1992 in what some will be tempted to call a united states of Europe.

A huge bloc of 320 million people, untrammelled by frontiers, is about to emerge. Fifty years ago they were at war with each other.

"Europe is rediscovering itself. It is now able to put a line under the second world war, look at itself and see where we are in the world," says Robert Elphick, an EEC spokesman in London.

"Eastern Europeans are also rediscovering themselves and falling back on old traditions, expressing themselves through their own culture and not through something imported from outside by forceable means," he said in an interview.

East and West, compelling images are being etched almost daily on European minds: An East German woman painting a West German insignia onto her car before crossing the border; giant machines digging a tunnel to link Britain to France; in Poland, the East bloc's first non-Communist premier.

While the unity of Western Europe is the outcome of a plodding, painstaking process that began soon after World War II, events in Eastern Europe are provoked by what French analyst

Eva Kulesza calls "an acceleration of history."

The postwar order, "so threatening and yet so stable, so basically unacceptable and yet so reassuringly predictable, is unraveling at an accelerating pace," says Francois Heisbourg, director of the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies.

German unification

It "may make adjustment difficult and sow the seeds of future instability," he wrote in the Independent newspaper in London.

Detlef Kuhn, director of the Bonn government's All-German Institute, believes the refugee exodus has made German reunification a live issue.

In an interview, Kuhn argued that if East Germany were to implement the reforms needed to make it attractive to its 17 million citizens, the country would have to dump Communism, and then would cease to have any reason to exist.

My analysis is that unification would solve so many problems that we would have an economic boom, which is good not only for Germany but Europe as a whole," Kuhn said.

But the world may not be ready for an even bigger Germany

dominating the heart of Europe with its mighty economic muscle.

"If you go beyond the ritual calling for pulling down the Berlin wall, I think there is a feeling that German unification might not be desirable," says Jonathan Hyde-Price, an analyst at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London.

Since it is assumed that Moscow would tolerate a reunited Germany only if it were neutral, he said in an interview, "I think there's a feeling that West Germany is too important for NATO and the EEC to risk losing."

Most analysts say it's far too early to write East Germany's obituary. The Economist calculated that even with the exodus via Hungary, proportionately fewer people have left East Germany in the past year than emigrate from Ireland, yet "nobody assumes the collapse of Ireland."

But it concluded unification would be the world's biggest change in 40 years, and "is no longer a subject from which the eye can be comfortably averted."

Mrs. Kulesza, head of Soviet and East European research at the independent French Institute of International Relations, agrees.

"What I'm worried about is

whether we are really prepared for it — do we really want a united Germany?" she said in an interview.

In a gloomy analysis, Oxford University Professor John Gray writes that the economic odds against Gorbachev may be insurmountable, even with massive Western aid.

"The danger is that the decay of the totalitarian system built up by Stalin and Lenin will result not in the reconstitution of a stable civil society, but in mounting chaos, economic collapse and the destabilisation of the experiments in controlled democracy in Poland and Hungary."

If so, he wrote, "then what we are now witnessing in the Soviet Union is not the middle of a reform, but the beginnings of a revolution, whose course no one can foresee."

Norman Stone, professor of modern history at Oxford University, sees "the wheel turning full circle," to a point where "we may, at long last, be realising the aims with which we went to war 50 years ago."

"There are many problems to solve," he wrote in the Sunday Times, "but 1989 is a good year to be alive; we may, at long last, have won the war."

Germany must not shun an active Middle East policy

By Wolfgang Kohler

ARTHUR James Balfour, British Foreign Secretary from 1916 to 1919, has gone down in history for his Balfour Declaration on the future of Palestine.

In a letter dated 2 November 1917 and written to the Zionist leader, Lord Rothschild, Balfour wrote that His Majesty's government was well disposed toward the establishment of a national home for the Jews in Palestine. It would do its best to make this objective easier to attain "but, you will appreciate, nothing must be done that might prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine or jeopardise the rights and political status of Jews in other countries."

The Zionists used this declaration as a formal basis for their efforts to set up a Jewish state in Palestine, whereas it is condemned to this day by Palestinian Arabs as the starting-point of alien rule over their native country and as an expression of Western imperialism in the Middle East.

In March 1925 Balfour, then aged 77, paid Palestine, then administered by Britain under League of Nations mandate, his first and only visit.

He travelled there for the inauguration of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. On his arrival the customs officer is said to have asked him: "Have you anything else to declare?"

Derek Hopwood, professor of Middle Eastern history at St. Anthony's College, Oxford, told this anecdote at the annual conference of the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies in Durham.

Maybe, he suggested, it was time the British government issued a further declaration to the effect that Her Majesty's government was well disposed toward the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Arab-European relations were the keynote of the conference, held jointly this year with its French counterpart, the Association française pour l'étude du monde arabe et musulman.

In his Reflections on Relations between Europe and the Middle East, Professor Hopwood also dealt with the allegation that the West had adopted a view of the East that had little to do with the realities of the situation.

"The Arabs," he concluded, "have adopted a view of Europe based on imagination and confrontation, just as the Europeans have adopted a view of the Middle East based on imagination and domination."

Many people in the Middle East had redefined their position in terms of Islam, which owed nothing to the West, yet were still at loggerheads with the West as they imagined it, he said.

He called this attitude the third stage, after importing nationalism and socialism from the West.

The Middle East, in his view, was more anxious than virtually any other part of the world to protect its cultural heritage — and felt threatened by cultural Westernisation.

Concepts such as dignity, authenticity and identity were associated with Islam. Yet how could a state be modern and liberal without being Westernised and dominated by the West?

In answer to this question Professor Hopwood referred to Iran, which was, he said, the only state that had tried to adopt an extremist approach.

If there is a gap in understanding between Europe and the Middle East, how is one to bridge it? "Orientalism" is not the right answer; it is a Western lesson, not a dialogue, it stresses distinctions and thus becomes a boundary and a limitation.

Yet Professor Hopwood was equally dismissive in ruling out "Occidentalism" as an approach to understanding.

In his view every educated Arab is to some extent an "Occidentalist," having absorbed some aspect or other of Western culture. So he ought to be prepared to enter into a dialogue with a European intermediary.

Both sides must redefine their relations, not attaching too much importance to the past. Professor Hopwood saw a number of hopeful signs that this was happening.

Udo Steinbach, director of the German Oriental Studies Institute, Hamburg, regretted that the Federal Republic of Germany was at present absent from the political stage in the Middle East.

There had yet to be any German response to dramatic changes there which had established new coordinates for a settlement of the Arab-Israeli or Palestinian-Israeli confrontation. This silence in Bonn — on, say,

the PLO's peace initiative — reflected, as he saw it, a malaise felt in Bonn on various occasions in respect of relations with the Middle East.

There were high Arab expectations of the Federal Republic's political clout corresponding to its economic ties with the region, but the federal government had strictly limited room for political manoeuvre.

Bonn was trying to avoid anything that might further complicate relations with Washington in view of the part played by German firms in the construction of a chemicals plant in Libya and of the difficult talks with the United States on short-range nuclear missiles.

Steinbach mentioned as an instance of external pressure such as had influenced decisions in Bonn on previous occasions William Safire's New York Times commentary entitled "Auschwitz-in-the-Sand."

This article had shown what problems Bonn faced in its Middle East policy.

He mentioned for purposes of comparison the accusations levelled by former Israeli Premier Menachem Begin at Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt for having served in the Wehrmacht.

Mr. Begin's accusations were made in a bid to stall the export of German tanks to Saudi Arabia.

Bonn's relations with Israel have in Steinbach's opinion been the determining factor in German policy on the Middle East ever since the Federal Republic was founded.

"The Arabs were only considered marginally," he said. "Bonn expected them to show understanding."

He listed factors that made German policy toward the Middle East more difficult. They included Germany's past, the close ties between Israel and America, the Federal Republic's reliance on the United States, the complexity of the situation in the Middle East and the extraordinary sensitivity of German public opinion where Israel was concerned.

If the federal government had nonetheless succeeded in drawing up and pursuing to some extent a Middle East policy worthy of the name, it had only been able to do so by virtue of the common European policy toward the Middle East.

This common European approach took shape in the early 1970s, mainly as a proving ground to show whether a common European foreign policy was possible.

Due largely to German urging, the "legitimate rights" of the Palestinian people, up to and including the "right of self-determination," had been included in a number of declarations.

The idea, Steinbach said, had then been to call for a solution to the German Question that was similarly based on the right of self-determination.

The intifada and the Israeli response to it had intensified Bonn's dilemma. The federal government had endorsed the condemnation of moves by the Israeli army in the 8 February 1988 European Community declaration, but bilaterally the German reaction had been "extremely guarded."

He referred to the agreement

reached by all parties in the March 1988 Bundestag debate that the Germans must be "particularly tactful" with regard to these events and were not entitled to tell the Israelis what to do.

Ought the Federal Republic to pursue a Middle East policy of any kind? Steinbach mentioned three reasons why it should, as the federal government and the Bundestag saw it.

The other two were economic grounds, such as German dependence on oil imports from the Middle East (although this dependence has declined, from 44 per cent in 1981 to 16 per cent in 1987), and German exports.

Outside the Western industrialised countries the Middle East ranks second only to Eastern Europe as a market for German exports. These economic considerations mean that Germany has an interest in stability in the region.

The Federal Republic is not only affected by war and tension in the Middle East; it is also threatened by terrorist attacks and hijackings.

The special nature of German-Israeli relations ought in Steinbach's view not merely to find expression in declarations, friendship arrangements and an endless succession of visitors to Israel.

It must include political responsibility to safeguard Israel's existence by means of reconciliation with the Arabs. In the longer term Israel's security could only be guaranteed in part by military strength and external support.

Lasting security could only be achieved by means of compromise. Given its historic responsibility toward Israel the Federal Republic must not shun an active Middle East policy; it must commit itself even more strongly than others — Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland.

W. German villagers want British army to leave

By Alexander Ferguson
Reuters

BISPINGEN, West Germany — Residents of Lueneburg heath, where Nazi troops on the western front surrendered to allied forces at the end of World War II, want the British army to leave one of its most important training areas.

Villagers say the troops and their tanks have turned the idyllic landscape south of Hamburg into a wasteland reminiscent of the Flanders battlefields of the World War I.

Ecologists rage as Chieftain tanks churn the land into a quagmire. Villagers wince under the roar of Tornado jets.

A church group has planted wooden crosses around the 173 square kilometre area to show the land is dead.

The tension between the army's training needs and local concern about the countryside has reached the point where Bonn and London have had to get involved.

and the issue of the exercise area is on the agenda, diplomats said.

Under the Soltau-Lueneburg treaty of 1959, British troops are allowed to carry out manoeuvres on the heath, much of which is a nature reserve, at all times of the day throughout the year.

"The treaty is a left over from the Second World War," said Dieter Mochmann, a local member of parliament. "People are sick of it."

"Nothing can grow here," said Ernst-Otto Boesselmann, spokesman for a local protest group, pointing to a sea of mud stretching to the horizon.

One British military source described the treaty as a "running sore in Anglo-German relations," but shrugged off the complaints by comparing them to the type of protest made when a motorway was built.

"It's unpleasant if it's on your doorstep, but it's for the greater good: NATO's defence," he said.

Mochmann said that when the treaty was signed the West German government had failed to get guarantees that the population and environment would be re-

spected. He and Boesselmann are part of a growing pressure group, with almost 300 members, who want to see the treaty scrapped by 1997 at the latest.

The group has sent a petition to Bonn signed by more than 10,000 people from the 26,000 strong community.

"The protests against the troops are as old as the treaty itself," said Klaus Doppke, the chief local government officer in Bispingen, a village in the centre of the manoeuvre area.

But he said opposition was growing among local people and the West Germans who spent their holidays in the area could see no point to the huge military presence at a time when the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had announced arms control and disarmament initiatives.

"We try to counter these criticisms by saying it's better to have Chieftain tanks here than tanks with red stars on them. But all they see is the countryside being destroyed," he said.

Going East pays off

By Stan Martenson

THERE ARE 68 Goethe Institutes throughout the world. There is every indication that they will be set up in a few other countries soon. The long years of effort on the part of the Federal Republic of Germany to gain access for this cultural mediating organisation to Eastern Europe now seems to be paying off. So far, there have only been Goethe Institutes in the Yugoslavian cities of Belgrade (since 1970) and Zagreb (since 1971). But Yugoslavia is a special case in Eastern Europe. It does not belong to the Socialist community of states. The first member of the Warsaw Pact to allow the establishment of a Goethe Institute was Romania in 1979. Unlike the branches in Belgrade and Zagreb, the Goethe Institute in Bucharest was permitted to run German language courses without being able to accommodate all those interested.

Early 1988, a Goethe Institute was opened in Budapest. The internal situation in Hungary has changed course in favour of pluralism. The monopoly for German cultural work, enjoyed so far by the GDR, no longer obtains following the democratisation of the political and social conditions in Hungary. Bonn's foreign policy made advances to Hungary which have now turned out to be worthwhile. What is more, the Goethe Institute in Budapest is of particular importance. A German minority living in Hungary is now receiving greater attention from the Hungarian state once more. This applies above all to language activity. Hungary has now started to promote German as a mother tongue. There is a need for language-teaching material and background information on the Federal Republic of Germany — as produced and distributed by Inter Nations, a further mediating organisation, on a wide range of topics for further German foreign cultural work.

It seems likely that the next Goethe Institutes will be opened in Moscow and Warsaw. An agreement to this effect was signed during the visit to Bonn by Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet state and party leader. Like the institutes in Belgrade, Zagreb, Bucharest and Budapest, the one in Moscow will not bear the name of Goethe. Efforts to get the contracting partners in Eastern Europe to agree to this have been unsuccessful so far. Admittedly, there are non-Communist countries in which German cultural institutes have another name. The Moscow institute will, in all probability, commence operations next year. There is a vague hope that the institute will be accommodated in the old palace, occupied at present by the German Embassy. The fact that the Soviet government has allowed the institute to be accessible to all Soviet citizens in the agreement, has been hailed up as a success by the Goethe Institute's head office in Munich. The agreement on a cultural institute in Poland has already been initiated. In other words, it is still awaiting official signature during Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl's visit to Warsaw. The institute will boast of one special

feature: at Poland's request, its purview is to be extended to include the exchange of scientific and technological information. A data terminal is to be installed, providing Polish users with access to German data banks. This enhancement of commitments means that the Goethe Institute is breaking new ground. The head office in Munich is anticipating considerable technical and organisational difficulties in the initial stages.

The prospects of setting up German cultural institutes on a similar basis in Prague and Sofia are by no means poor. An agreement with Bulgaria was signed in November 1988. Since 1 April 1989, the head of the institute, together with a locally-employed member of staff, has been trying to cope with the onrush, particularly "German learners". The negotiations with Prague have still not been concluded.

The opening-up of Eastern Europe for cultural institutes from the Federal Republic of Germany has been a long-standing objective of foreign cultural policy. Expectations on the part of the population vis-à-vis the Goethe Institutes are great. There are fears in Munich that there will be much disappointment when it is discovered that the newly erected cultural institutes are still inadequately equipped with staff and material (library). The question of finance is creating headaches. The latest annual report by the Goethe Institute states: "The joy engendered by the possibilities of developing new activities in the direction of Eastern Europe is clouded by the fact that the essential provision of the necessary offices and materials promises to be a difficult and arduous task. Whilst this is understandable in the light of the considerable budgetary problems on the part of the Federal government, it is hardly acceptable in the light of the politically-desired intensification of cooperation, especially with Eastern Europe."

The Goethe Institute recently listed the funds it required and what they were needed for. The medium-term planning covers the period 1990-1993. It is emphasised that, in the countries of Eastern Europe, in particular, the Goethe Institute could fulfil its commitments optimally. After all, nowhere in the world is there so much German learnt as in Eastern Europe. Some 9 million persons are learning German in the Soviet Union alone. It is anticipated that Goethe Institute German courses will be in great demand in these countries — as has already become apparent in Budapest. A large number of German teachers is commensurate with the large number of persons learning German. As has been realistically forecast in Munich, they are seeking contacts, exchange of experience, information and incentives from the Federal Republic of Germany. And it must also be borne in mind that the interest of intellectuals in Eastern Europe in cultural development in the Federal Republic of Germany has remained alive during the years in which their countries were sealed off. **INP**

A turning point for China's agriculture

By Yuan Jiang

CHINA has just reaped an excellent summer grain harvest, representing a success in the first round of the battle to achieve an annual grain harvest exceeding the 1984 record level. This year's summer harvest of wheat, barley and beans is estimated at roughly 93.5 million tonnes, 2.5 million tonnes up from 1988 and slightly exceeding the previous peak record registered in 1986.

Summer grains account for just over one-fifth of China's annual grain harvest, most of which is gathered in autumn. Whether the country can end a four-year stagnation in grain production is still a problem that is a serious concern of China's economic planners.

The country's agriculture is facing a grave situation: it has to feed the world's biggest population which hit 1.1 billion in April this year. The stagnation of grain production in the last four years was pinpointed as one of the major factors for last year's 18.5 per cent price hike, the highest rate since 1949. This has alerted people to the fact that the grain problem must be addressed without delay to help check inflation and ensure a healthy growth of the national economy.

After last year's grain harvest, 2 per cent down from the preceding year, China's leading officials have announced the government's determination to revitalise the agricultural sector, primarily grain production.

Addressing the National People's Congress last March, Premier Li Peng pledged energetic efforts to expand agriculture as the foundation for China's economic development. Vice-Premier Tian Jiyun called for efforts to bring about a turning point in agricultural production.

Yet in the early 1980s, everyone agreed that agriculture was the most dynamic sector of China's national economy. Farmers were energised by rural reforms which led to six years of dramatic economic growth from 1979 to 1984. The 1984 record grain harvest of 407.31 million tonnes was nearly one-third more than in 1978. Cotton and other major crops also hit record levels in 1984.

The unprecedented harvest enabled China to solve the long-standing problem of providing enough basic food for its huge population and turned the country from a grain importer to a net exporter in the next two years. Yet grain output has hovered around 390-400 million tonnes in the last four years without being able to climb back to the 1984 peak level, and China has again been importing cereals since 1987.

In the four decades (1949-1988) following the founding of the People's Republic, China's annual grain output increased 3.48 times while its population doubled. The per-capita grain output of the nation, 208 kilos in 1949, shot up to 393 kilos in 1984 and, after four years of stagnation, dropped to 360 kilos last year.

The country has to face this stark fact in its agricultural development: its population is growing at a rate of 14 to 15 million a year, a figure equivalent to the population of Australia,

while the country's arable land is being nibbled away by the emergence of new rural factories, roads, farmers' new homes and in some places by new fish ponds and orchards built by profit-seeking farmers.

Rising consumption

Surveys made by State Statistical Bureau show that rising food consumption has added to the strains of grain supply. Per-capita consumption of meat, eggs and sugar has doubled and that of vegetable oil tripled in the past decade. As a result, livestock farming, poultry raising and the food industry demand increasing quantities of grain.

Output of beer, for example, increased nine times to 6.43 million tonnes between 1980 and 1988. It is estimated that 25 million tonnes of grain, enough to feed all the Chinese for more than one month, are used annually to make alcoholic drinks. Livestock and poultry feed take an even bigger amount every year.

Grain consumption is expected to rise further in the coming years as more grain will be needed for the production of meat, eggs, milk, alcoholic drinks and other processed food for both the domestic and overseas markets.

Too Cool

There have been reports in the "People's Daily" and other national newspapers saying that an important reason for the stagnation of grain production is that "industrial development is overheated, while agriculture has not received enough warmth and is too cool."

Between 1976 and 1980, agriculture accounted for 10.5 per cent of the nation's total capital investment. This proportion was slashed to only 5.1 per cent in the 1981-1985 period and further to a meagre 3 per cent in the years 1986-1988. Industry, energy, transport and communications now take up the lion's share of the investment.

Since the government purchase prices for grain and cotton are kept artificially low, these products are relatively uncompetitive in attracting investments, said Chen Xiwu, a noted agricultural economist at the National Rural Development Research Centre. He suggested that the government should readjust its investment priorities to put greater emphasis on agriculture. Moreover, he said, large water conservancy projects and factories producing equipment take many years to build. Such investment is needed soon to support agricultural development in the 1990s.

Farmers who are losing interest in grain production are going in for those trades that bring them higher profits, for example, animal husbandry and rural industry. In the last four years, while grain production fluctuated, animal husbandry went up at an average annual rate of 9 per cent and rural industry, transport and services up 20-30 per cent a year in terms of output value. Overall, the country's total agricultural output value continued to rise in the last 4 years, although at a slower pace of some 4 per cent. Farmers' income has increased. But the most pressing problem remains that of grain production. Many economists agree that it is necessary

to raise the prices at which the government buys cereals.

The government raised the prices for purchasing grain and other major farm products by 24 per cent in 1979 and offered more for above-quota sales, but this has been offset by steeper price rises for chemical fertiliser, diesel and farm tools.

To stimulate farmers' interest in grain and cotton production, the government this year again raised prices for cereals by 18-25 per cent and the price for cotton by 20 per cent. But China has to carry out an overall price reform if prices are truly to reflect the value of products, economists say. This could take many years to achieve.

Measures to boost production

The target for China's grain output is 500 million tonnes by the year 2000. "That would require an average annual growth rate of 1.9 to 2 per cent in the next 12 years," said agricultural economist Chen Xiwu, "the goal is not unattainable, provided that favourable conditions are created for stable agricultural growth."

Apart from raising purchase prices, the following measures are being taken by the government to boost output:

— Although the government is implementing an austerity financial policy this year, it has decided to increase its capital investment in agriculture to \$337.8 million up by 16 per cent over last year.

— Banks will grant \$4.7 billion of new loans this year to farmers, up 63 per cent from last year. Added to the 80 billion yuan of loans issued earlier, the total sum will reach nearly \$27 billion.

— Agricultural development foundation funds will be established by the provinces for their farm development projects. The total sum of such funds is expected to reach \$1.35 billion in 1989.

— Twenty-five per cent of the loans already granted by the World Bank to China will be used for agriculture.

— Factories plan to produce 85 million tonnes of chemical fertiliser this year, 5 million tonnes more than in 1988. The supply of insecticide and diesel oil will also go up.

— In the past three years, 110 counties have been built into grain-producing bases. Another 80 such bases will be built in the next two years.

— The area devoted to grain growing is to be expanded this year to 111.3 million hectares by double-cropping, interplanting and the utilisation of winter fallow land in southern China.

— More farmers will be acquainted with new agro-techniques as part of a widespread campaign to publicise new methods.

After this year's bumper wheat harvest, He Kang, minister of agriculture, said that a turning point has been reached. "The potential for further expanding China's agricultural production lies in scientific farming, in utilising the country's wasteland, hilly areas, lakes, rivers, grasslands and tidal lands, and in transforming low-yielding farmland," the minister said. "But, the population growth must be controlled," he noted — **China features.**

Ex-U.S. president takes on horn peacemaker role

TALKS aimed at ending Africa's longest civil war will get under way soon — half a world away in the United States.

Atlanta, Georgia, may seem an improbable venue for negotiations between the Ethiopian government and the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF). But it is the home of the man who has emerged as a mediator in the 28-year-old conflict, the former American president, Jimmy Carter.

Should the initial meeting, opening on Sept. 7, prove successful, the talks are expected to be continued in an African capital, possibly Nairobi or Cairo.

Egypt's President Mubarak, the current Chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, has already shown his readiness to back this bid to restore peace to the Horn of Africa, for so long plagued by war and recurring famine.

The EPLF's readiness to come to the negotiating table has encouraged the other major rebel grouping, the Tigre People's Liberation Front, to follow suit.

It has announced its willingness to hold similar talks under Mr. Carter's chairmanship. Unlike the EPLF, however, it has never demanded total independence, only autonomy with a unified Ethiopia.

Over the past year or so there has been a concerted effort to resolve several of Africa's most serious internal conflicts. And few would now deny that this has to be viewed in the context of the growing rapprochement between the super-powers.

Once President Gorbachev became convinced that regional crisis points were a stumbling block to better bilateral relations, the Soviet Union joined the United States in a determined attempt to "defuse" them.

The process began with the most glaringly urgent of these problems and it led in the withdrawal of the USSR's invading forces from Afghanistan. Then the spotlight switched to Southern Africa and the interlinked issues of bringing Namibia to independence and ending Angola's civil war.

That a formula was found which promises to achieve both these goals owed much to the pressures exerted by Washington and Moscow behind the scenes.

Meanwhile, there are hopes that the other major obstacle to détente, the Cambodian question, may now be removed. The outline of a settlement plan, which includes the withdrawal of the Vietnamese invaders, emerged from a recent conference.

At the same time Africa's attention has been focused on efforts to end other debilitating internal conflicts.

While the Ethiopians, especially the armed forces, are undoubtedly war-weary, mounting pressure from Kremlin is another potent factor behind the decision of the Marxist regime in Addis Ababa to talk to the Eritrean separatists.

Few observers are over-optimistic about the forthcoming talks. But they agree that the outlook appears more promising than at any time since the 1974 revolution — **Linns features**

Zaire: "Papa" and "mama" cards — a new way of saving

RICKSHAW pullers in Zaire are being encouraged to save with a new savings scheme, says a report from IRED Forum, the magazine of the Geneva-based Development Innovations and Networks.

The system involves the puller depositing part of each day's income with a father (papa) or mother (mama) of the district or market, well-known for their honesty. The amount deposited on the first day of the month should be the same on each following day until the end of the month.

Each day, the amount deposited is written on a card, of

which there are two copies. At the end of the month, the papa or mama take one day's deposit as their commission from the total amount of the rickshaw puller's monthly savings. This savings system has become general among the population of Kinshasa. Over time, the system makes it possible for the poor rickshaw pullers to amass reasonable amounts of money.

The pullers are now asking their union — the Association des Conducteurs de Chariots de Zaire — to help set up a collective savings system which would give them access to credit with the association — **PANOS.**

Zimbabwe: Foot-and-mouth disease killing beef export industry

THE ban on Zimbabwe's beef exports to the European Economic Community (EEC) which was imposed in May, after an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, has been extended because of a resurgence of the disease. Dingaan Mpoudah reports from Harare.

Dr. Stuart Hargreaves, Zimbabwe's veterinary service director, said that before the new outbreak of the disease, negotiations for the resumption of prime beef exports to the EEC were supposed to take place before the

end of the year. "It will not be this year, nor early next year. This new development has seriously affected the beef industry," Hargreaves said.

Zimbabwe in the past earned an estimated \$250 million (US\$45 million) in foreign currency from its beef exports.

Hargreaves said that negotiations for exports to the EEC would only resume when the disease was under full control — **PANOS.**

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Iraq begins oil exports through second phase of trans-Saudi pipeline

JEDDAH (Agencies) — The tanker Al Qadisiya left the Red Sea oil terminal of Yanbu Tuesday after lifting the first consignment of Iraqi oil pumped through the recently completed second phase of a pipeline across Saudi Arabia.

Full operational capacity of the second phase of the pipeline, known as IPSA-2, will add 1.15 million barrels a day to Iraq's oil export potential.

Coupled with development schemes of Mina Al Bakr terminal on the Gulf, that potential is expected to exceed five million barrels a day sometime in 1990.

That would lift Iraq to the ranks of the oil giants of the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). Iraq's oil reserves are estimated at 100 billion barrels, among the highest within the OPEC.

The tanker, flying the Iraqi flag, left after an 18-hour loading operation during which it lifted a consignment of 36,000 barrels of crude oil pumped at a rate of 2,000 barrels an hour, said sources who spoke on condition of not being identified further.

They declined to give the destination of the tanker. Yanbu is about 440 kilometres south of the Saudi Arabia port city of Jeddah. Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Al Chalabi, in a message to President Saddam Hussein broadcast over Baghdad Television the previous night, announced that loading had started into the 155,211-ton tanker, marking the inauguration of IPSA-2.

"This is a new lifeline for the Iraqi economy which will provide more resources for our development plans," Chalabi said in the message.

The twin pipeline has a capacity to move 1.65 million barrels a day overall, which would set Iraq's oil exporting capacity via pipelines to the Mediterranean through Turkey, and to the Red Sea through Saudi Arabia, at 3.25 million barrels per day.

Iraq, which has an OPEC-decreed daily quota of 2.78 million barrels per day, also began exporting oil by tanker through the Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz once a U.N.-sponsored ceasefire was enforced Aug. 20, 1988 halting its eight-year war with Iran.

Before IPSA-2's inauguration, Iraq's export potential was estimated at 2.65 million barrels a day.

The operation of the trans-

Saudi pipeline thus contributes to the considerable enhancement of Iraq's oil exporting capacity, a leverage it could count on if it decides to press for a higher OPEC production quota. The country needs to increase its oil revenues as it moves ahead with reconstruction of its war-battered economy.

Oil industry circles noted that the timing of the first tanker lifting from IPSA-2 comes a few days ahead of an OPEC committee meeting in Geneva to consider the thorny issue of production levels, which remains unsatisfactorily low in several member states.

Chalabi, in an interview with the oil newsletter Middle East Economic Survey (MEES), published in Cyprus, had said his country was planning to stick to the output quota decreed by OPEC despite the increase in its export capacity.

"We will continue to hold to the quota and we will press the others to hold to their quotas also," Chalabi told MEES.

The sources said, however, that the full operational capacity of the trans-Saudi pipeline would not be reached before the middle of 1990. MEES had anticipated full capacity operation by this November.

During the war, Iraqi oil exports fell to as little as one million barrels a day at times because of the closure of Gulf outlets and the halting of oil flow through a trans-Syrian pipeline. Syria supported Iran during the war.

A first stage of the trans-Saudi pipeline, one of the alternatives Iraq sought during the war years, IPSA-1, was inaugurated in 1985, with a capacity of 500,000 barrels a day, also gradually attained.

The sources estimated that, combined with IPSA-2, the completed pipeline initially will be moving 800,000 barrels per day, with a gradual increase along the months till next summer.

A week ago, Iraq had begun channeling the crude from its Basra southern oil-fields via loops to the Trans-Saudi pipeline on the Gulf side of the kingdom.

The director of ports in the kingdom, Mubammad Al Bakr, flanked by Abdul Ghani Halawani, the man in charge of the King Fahd industrial harbour under which Yanbu falls, inspected the site as the tanker loading was under way.

The completed \$2 billion, 142-centimetre pipeline stretches for 1,640 kilometres. It was laid by a consortium of Japanese, South Korean and several Western firms.

IPSA-1, to be integrated into IPSA-2, was a 630-kilometre stretch that used to feed into Saudi Arabia's own petroline, which links the major Saudi oil-fields in the Eastern Province across the desert to the Red Sea terminals.

Coalition fears hit Israeli stock market

TEL AVIV (R) — Prices plunged on Israel's stock exchange Tuesday amid growing fears of a split in the coalition government over Middle East peace moves.

Prices fell by six per cent on the stock exchange index Tuesday in a day of record trading sparked by differences between Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's rightists and their Labour partners over Egyptian proposals to amend Shamir's plan for Palestinian elections in the occupied territories.

Stock exchange managing director Yossi Nitzani told army radio that prices had been rising steadily all year and it was natural that as investors saw a peak approaching they should become sensitive to political turbulence.

"The more prices rise the more sensitive the public becomes... with these high levels we should not be surprised if we see more nervousness... than we saw in previous months," he said.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin met Shamir to report his talks Monday with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on the proposed amendments, largely accepted by Rabin and his Labour colleagues but opposed by Shamir's Likud Party.

In addition to matters of election procedure Egypt's proposals call for a freeze on Jewish settlement in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and a commitment to trade occupied land for peace.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

| Tuesday, September 19, 1989 | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|------------------------|-------|-------|
| Central Bank official rates | | | | | |
| | Buy | Sell | | | |
| U.S. dollar | 609.7 | 615.7 | Japanese yen (for 100) | 417.3 | 421.5 |
| Pound Sterling | 955.6 | 965.2 | Dutch guilder | 276.8 | 279.6 |
| Deutschemark | 312.0 | 315.1 | Swedish crown | 92.3 | 93.2 |
| Swiss franc | 361.4 | 365.0 | Italian lira (for 100) | 43.4 | 43.8 |
| French franc | 92.5 | 93.4 | Belgian franc (for 10) | 149.4 | 150.9 |

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------|--|
| One Sterling | 1.5655/65 | U.S. dollars | |
| One U.S. dollar | 1.1825/35 | Canadian dollar | |
| | 1.9573/80 | Deutschemark | |
| | 2.2070/80 | Dutch guilders | |
| | 1.6925/35 | Swiss francs | |
| | 40.95/98 | Belgian francs | |
| | 6.6060/110 | French francs | |
| | 1410/1411 | Italian lire | |
| | 146.10/20 | Japanese yen | |
| | 6.6140/90 | Swedish crowns | |
| | 7.1320/70 | Norwegian crowns | |
| | 7.6040/90 | Danish crowns | |
| One ounce of gold | 360.00/360.50 | U.S. dollars | |

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters
SYDNEY — The long-awaited sale of Bond Corp's breweries offset concern about interest rates and the trade deficit. The All-Ordinaries Index gained 10.3 to 1,745.8.

TOKYO — The Nikkei index fell 1.47 points to 34,471.07. Fund managers, closing their half-year books this week, watched from the wings.

HONG KONG — The Hang Seng Index fell 19.91 to 2,628.3. Brokers said the market lacked fresh incentives.

SINGAPORE — The Straits Times Industrial Index slipped below the psychological 1,400 level to close 5.24 points lower at 1,399.27. Institutional investors remained largely sidelined.

BOMBAY — Prices drifted lower on profit-taking in light trade. Many investors stayed on the sidelines and state-owned investment institutions were the only buyers.

FRANKFURT — Shares closed higher but many investors avoided the market amid fears the Bundesbank might raise interest rates on Thursday. The Real-Time 30-Share Dax index gained 9.03 to 1,614.14.

PARIS — Interest in special interest stocks offset modest profit-taking and prices closed higher. The 50-share bourse indicator rose by 0.18 pct.

LONDON — Prices recovered in late trading after a bout of profit-taking set in on rumours of a "sell" programme. At 1530 GMT the FTSE index was down 11.0 at 2,362.8.

NEW YORK — Blue chips rose, helped by some programme buying, firm bond prices and a stronger dollar. Consumer prices data suggested abating inflationary pressures. The Dow gained 10 to 2,698.



Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Hikmat Khammash accompanied by Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Director Moham-

med Shabed Ismail (right) tours Tuesday the Indian Trade Exhibition at Marj Al Hamam guided by exhibition director V.D.N. Rao.

Khammash shows keen interest in Indian technology

AMMAN (J.T.) — Hikmat Khammash, minister of transport and telecommunications Tuesday visited the on-going Indian Trade Exhibition at Marj Al Hamam and was briefed by Indian Ambassador Gajendra Singh and

Mr. V.D.N. Rao, director of the exhibition. Hikmat spent over an hour and half at the exhibition. He showed keen interest in a pictorial display depicting an over-view of the industrial infrastructure developed by India in various sectors such as steel, heavy engineering, electronics, transport and communications, pharmaceuticals, electronics, oil refining, atomic energy and space research.

He also showed interest in the broad range of products shown in the exhibition, including agricultural implements such as tractors and threshers; tyre retreading machinery, machine tools, equipment for uninterruptible power supply, fuel injectors, equipment, and a host of consumer items such as textiles, garments, leather products and gold jewellery. He readily recognised the display of some of the Indian companies already known in Jordan.

dan such as the Bharat Earth Movers Limited, Indian Railway Construction Company Limited, Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI), and Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India (MMTC).

The minister spent considerable time in the stalls put up by the Indian Telephone Industries, and MMTC and made searching enquiries about the technical specifications, quality control methods being adopted in India and price competitiveness of the products.

The minister was informed about the wide range of mining and other engineering equipments already supplied by India to Jordan. In particular, he appreciated a sophisticated mobile exploration drilling rig on display which has been recently supplied from India for the phosphate mines in Jordan.

U.S. boosts Hungary

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Commerce Department announced Monday that the United States was prepared to provide Hungary with a wide series of business and economic benefits, including permanent most-favoured-nation (MFN) trade status.

It would make Hungary the first Eastern European nation having such status since enactment of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment in 1974 tying those benefits to free emigration policies, the department said.

Yugoslavia and Poland also have MFN status, but obtained theirs before 1974.

In addition, Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher said the United States is prepared to improve tariff treatment of Hungarian products, extend development programmes and create a \$25 million fund to help create private business in the Communist country.

"This step is an important part of implementing President George Bush's goal of building an American partnership with Hungary," Mosbacher said in a statement after a meeting with Hungarian Trade Minister Tamas Beck in Budapest.

A copy was made available in Washington. "Such an agreement is fundamental for private sector business because it would contain investment protection guarantees which boost confidence and open the way to substantially increased U.S. private investment in Hungary," Mosbacher said.

He said Beck agreed to open negotiations on the proposals.

Management challenge comes to Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The organisers of the 1989 Middle East Management Challenge are pleased to announce an outstanding record response to this year's country finals' stage of the competition which surpassed all previous levels of response throughout the six-year-old history of the challenge. "The substantial increase corresponds with the Middle East Management Challenge expansion of field beyond the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region with the inclusion this year of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan," said Grant Bonar, marketing manager for the Middle East at BAT UK & Export. He added that 54 teams have now been selected to participate in the Country Final stage of the competition.

The Country Finals will be in nine locations throughout the Middle East, during September 1989, starting first in Saudi Arabia in Jeddah, followed by Riyadh then in Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Oman and finally culminating in Amman. The lucky winners from each location will automatically qualify for the grand final stage of the competition which will be held in November in the UK. This year the interest in the competition represented various economic sectors in the countries participating ranging from large corporate companies and banks to small private enterprises and hotels. There is also a noticeable increase in the number of females answering the call from the challenge with four entries in Jordan, one in Qatar and one in Bahrain.

The success and fame of this unique management exercise has not only attracted a vast number of competitors but also prompted teams who have previously experienced the pleasure of the simulated exercises and the taste of winning to try their luck again. During September 1989, the organisers of the Middle East Management Challenge will visit nine cities in the Middle East on a hectic schedule involving setting up computer simulated management exercises, which are expertly devised, by the renowned Ashridge Management College in the UK, to test the competing teams over a one day period in a highly competitive atmosphere. Each of the teams will be given a company history to review and study and later take critical management decisions which will be judged against the decisions of other participating competitors. Their objective is the success of the company by making sound decisions and although the strategies of the various teams may differ, the results will be judged on the basis of their performances.

Jordan, Sweden discuss economic cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Innab Tuesday had a meeting with his Swedish counterpart who is currently visiting Jordan as part of the delegation accompanying King Carl Gustaf and briefed him on the Kingdom's general economic conditions.

Innab spoke in depth about the government's measures to deal with the present difficulties and the country's restructuring plans. Innab also explained prospects for investors and the guarantees they are offered by the government, and cited a number of cases and their fruitful results. The minister referred in particular to

Jordanian-foreign joint ventures which have been carried out in the Kingdom and prospects for similar ventures within the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries.

The Swedish minister was briefed on the ACC programmes. He voiced his country's support for such groupings that aim to promote trade and economic and technical cooperation. He said Sweden welcomes cooperation with the ACC countries in these fields also and hopes that further efforts will be made to promote Jordanian-Swedish cooperation in all fields.

UNCTAD workshop ends in Amman on positive note

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day workshop on generalised preference system (GPS), organised by Amman Chamber of Industry in cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) concluded in Amman Tuesday.

Addressing the closing session, Khalidoun Abn Hassan, Amman Chamber of Industry President, said the workshop provided a good opportunity for continuous dialogue and contacts between exporters and international trade experts. Such contacts and dialogue will reflect positively on the volume of Jordanian exports and will lead to opening up external markets for the Jordanian products, Abu Hassan noted.

He pointed out that the involvement of both the public and private sector representatives in the workshop was indicative of their interest in increasing and promoting exports, particularly at this time when the country is going through a state of economic reform and adjustment.

Abu Hassan called on UNCTAD and the International Trade Centre to contribute to setting up a specialised unit in

Jordan to serve as a focal point for exportation to the industrialised countries and as a reference for exporters.

Abu Hassan voiced appreciation for UNCTAD and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for their efforts to make the workshop a success and called on the UNDP to provide the necessary assistance to the parties concerned with increasing exports.

Abu Hassan noted the great role played by the UNDP in developing and promoting exports and said the chamber pins great hopes on the technical and advisory services offered by the UNDP.

A UNCTAD representative praised the workshop's deliberations and discussions and called on Jordanian exporters to capitalise on the good bilateral relations between Jordan and the European Community (EC) and to benefit from the agreements already concluded with the EC. He said that the GPS provides good incentives and opportunities for exportation to the industrialised countries, particularly the EC states.

Jordan pharmaceuticals win Tunisian contract

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordanian pharmaceutical industries have won a share in an international tender floated in Tunis to provide Tunisian pharmacies and the Tunisian central pharmacy with medicines, according to Samir Arabiaty, director of the Jordanian Commercial Centre here.

Arabiaty said three Jordanian pharmaceutical companies together won 20 per cent of the total volume of a tender in which world companies took part. Arabiaty said Jordan's high-quality drugs have good reputation in

Tunisia and the North African Arab countries. The new tender could open the way for Jordanian pharmaceutical industries to sell more products in the countries of the Arab Maghreb Union, he added.

According to Arabiaty, a similar tender will be announced here soon to supply medical appliances and medicine to the Arab Maghreb Union countries which include Libya, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania in addition to Tunisia.

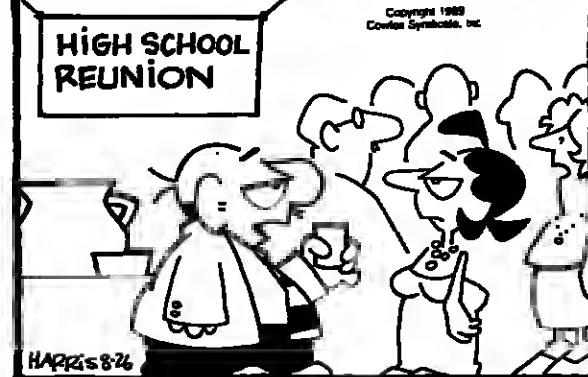
JD 800,000 loans to help Maan farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) this year contributed to the execution of 35 agricultural projects within the Maan Governorate, according to ACC Director General Mansour Ibn Tarif. He said that the ACC provided loans to farmers to finance drilling of artesian wells, reclaim lands to be planted with

fruit trees and purchase farm equipment, set up livestock farms and others totalling JD 800,000.

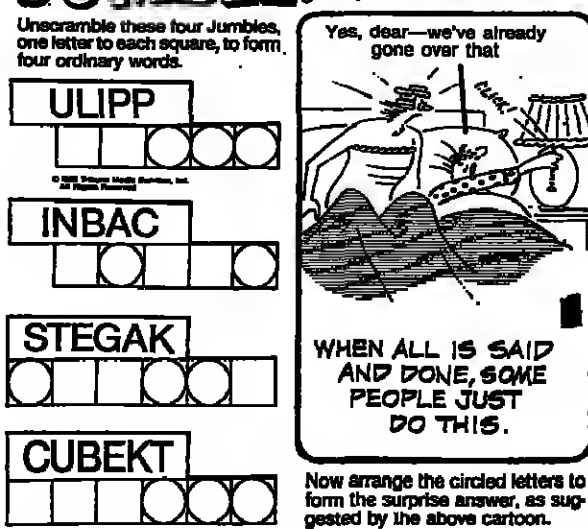
Ibn Tarif who was speaking with a delegation of Maan farmers here said that the ACC was willing to provide seasonal loans to farmers to help them purchase seeds and long and medium term loans for growing fruit trees in Maan Governorate.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"I counted 487 wrinkles in this room. Only 13 of them belong to you and me. So we're doing okay."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

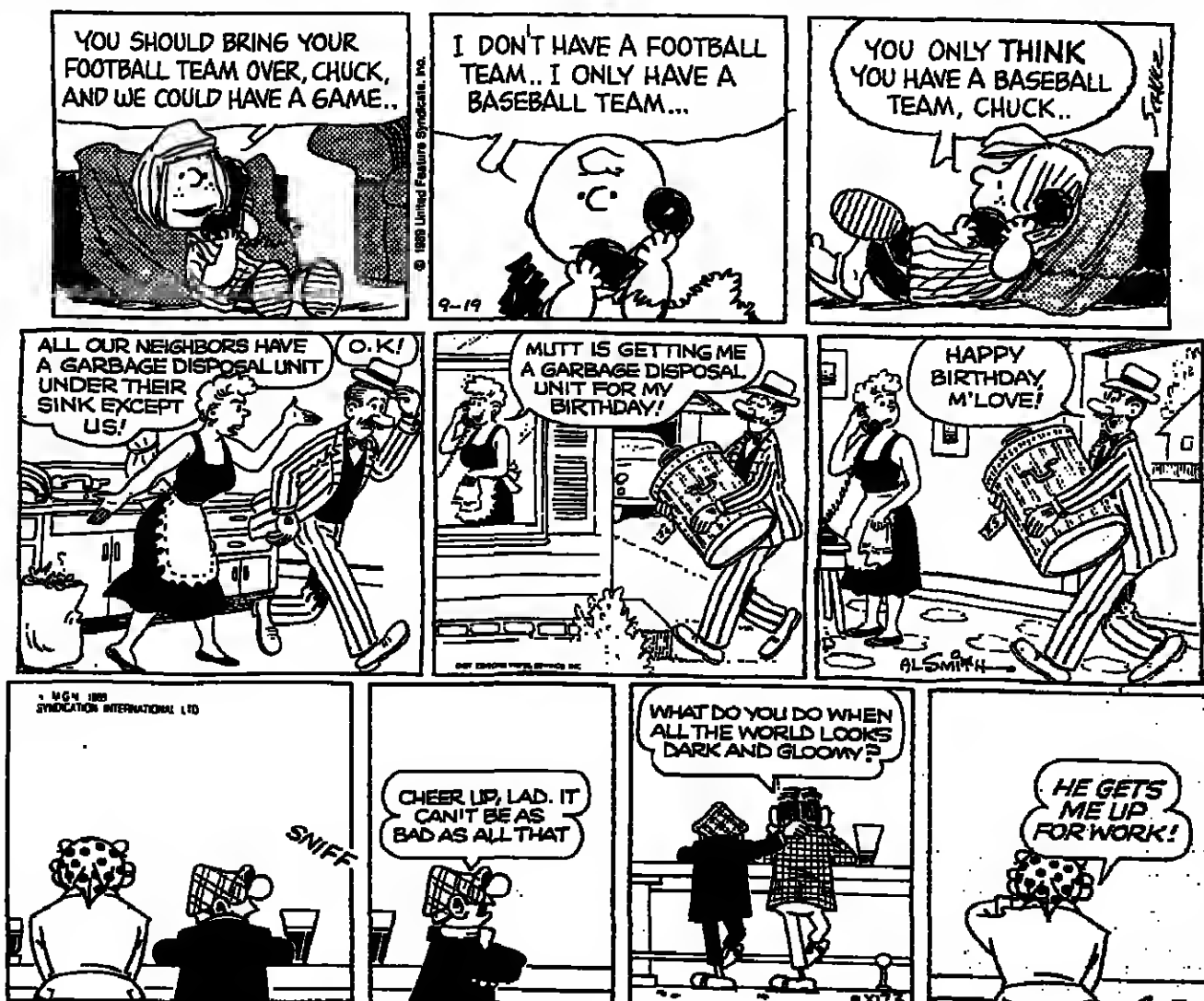


Answer: ON (Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: DOGMA TARDY ACHING PESTILE
Answer: The best weight lifters—CALORIES

Peanuts

Mutt'n' Jeff

Andy Capp



Phnom Penh honours departing Vietnamese

PHNOM PENH (Agencies) — Cambodia's rulers decorated departing Vietnamese military chiefs Tuesday and praised Vietnam's 11-year occupation as "humanitarian" because it stopped massacres by Cambodia's former rulers, the Khmer Rouge.

In a ceremony, authorities presented the Angkor Order to commanders of the eight army, navy and air force units that are to begin leaving Thursday in what Vietnam says will be the pullout of its last 26,000 troops.

Che Sim, number two of Phnom Penh's ruling Communist Party, pinned medals on the officers before delivering a speech praising them for having toppled the fanatical Communist Khmer Rouge in late 1978.

"The presence of the Vietnamese in Cambodia during the last 10 years is a legal act and humanitarian aid," he said of the intervention condemned by many non-Communist nations as a violation of international law and the United Nations Charter.

The Khmer Rouge killed people. The people were scared all the time," he said. "The presence of the Vietnamese troops in Cambodia has saved Cambodian lives."

The Khmer Rouge is blamed for the deaths of hundreds of

thousands of people during its nearly four-year experiment in creating a "pure" peasant society.

It now is the largest member of the three-party guerrilla coalition fighting the Vietnamese and the Phnom Penh government they installed days after the invasion.

Fighting could escalate sharply as the Phnom Penh forces stand alone against the Khmer Rouge after the Vietnamese pullout.

Che Sim, also president of the National Assembly, said the guerrillas still oppose his government although it has amended the constitution, overseen the Vietnamese pullout, and tried to find a political settlement.

Che Sim spoke a day after Prime Minister Hun Sen flew to Bangkok to try to revive the peace process with officials in Thailand, which backs the guerrillas fighting his government.

A Foreign Ministry official said Hun Sen, who is to meet Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Choonhavan, was expected back from Thailand Tuesday or Wednesday.

Che Sim urged foreign countries to stop arming Cambodian guerrillas, saying they would be responsible for any increased bloodshed.

"When all the Vietnamese troops withdraw from our country, the biggest problem remaining... is that the international community must urgently take action to prevent civil war," he said.

"Many of the countries who have condemned the Vietnamese troop presence and which give military aid to (the Khmer Rouge) are above all responsible for the danger of future civil war."

Vietnam has promised to pull out its last 26,000 soldiers from Cambodia between Thursday and Sept. 26.

China is the main arms supplier of the Khmer Rouge, the biggest of three guerrilla groups fighting along the Cambodian-Thai border.

Thailand, Singapore, the United States, Britain and France give assistance to two smaller, non-Communist groups.

Hun Sen's trip to Thailand was hastily arranged as Vietnamese soldiers made final preparations for a mass exodus from Cambodia by land, air, sea and river.

Bangkok has played a key role in the decade-long conflict by providing the guerrillas sanctuary and permitting foreign arms supplies to be transported to them across Thai territory.

At least 19 dead in Hurricane Hugo's Caribbean rampage

SAN JUAN (R) — Hurricane Hugo headed toward the Bahamas and the U.S. mainland Tuesday after a rampage through the Caribbean that killed at least 19 people and left tens of thousands homeless.

"There was some devastating damage to Puerto Rico, the worst in 50 years," a Puerto Rican official in Washington said.

Hugo battered Puerto Rico, the most populous of a dozen islands hit by what officials said was the strongest hurricane this decade in the Eastern Caribbean, with winds of more than 200 kilometres-per-hour Monday. It ripped roofs off homes, caused heavy damage to hotels, overturned cars and flooded roads.

Tourists who came to Puerto Rico for its sunny beaches and busy casinos had to ride out the storm huddled in hotel lobbies. Windows were blown out and ground floors flooded in luxury hotels in San Juan's Condado beach district, Puerto Rico's main tourist centre.

Damage estimates varied widely.

Ron Walker, spokesman for Puerto Rico's resident commissioner in Washington, said Hugo caused the worst property damage in the island in half a century. He said it probably made several hundred thousand people homeless and was known to have killed at least six.

But Governor Rafael Hernandez-Colon was quoted by Puerto Rican radio stations as estimating that about 30,000 people lost their homes.

Looters stole goods from damaged stores and supermarkets and at least 10 people were arrested, authorities said.

Forecasters said Hugo's current path could take it into the tiny Turks and Caicos Islands, the Bahamas and eventually to the east coast of the United States between Florida and the Carolinas.

At Cape Canaveral on Florida's middle Atlantic coast,

NASA officials said they would decide on Tuesday if Hugo would force postponement of the Oct. 12 launch of the space shuttle Atlantis.

Hugo struck Puerto Rico, a U.S. commonwealth with a population of 3.3 million, a day after tearing through the French island of Guadeloupe where it killed five people, injured dozens and made 10,000 to 12,000 homeless.

Hugo caused widespread damage from Guadeloupe north along a 640-kilometre arc of islands. Six people were reported dead in Montserrat and two in Antigua.

Authorities on Montserrat said most buildings in the British colony were severely damaged, and amateur radio operators relayed reports that nearly all the 12,000 residents lost their homes. The Royal Navy frigate Alacrity reached Montserrat with emergency supplies, the reports said.

De Klerk to bring 'new style, decisive reform'

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa has promised its people a new style of government and a period of decisive reform when F.W. de Klerk is sworn in as the republic's president Wednesday.

Top of his agenda will be negotiations with the black majority and boosting the country's battered economy, state-run radio South Africa said Tuesday in a daily commentary which voices government policy.

But no quick solution can be expected for the country's core problem, the radio said.

De Klerk, 53, winner of a power struggle with ex-President P.W. Botha and head of the long-governing National Party

which won elections Sept. 6, is to be sworn in as president in a Pretoria church Wednesday.

His supporters see him as a cautious reformer determined to get to grips with South Africa's problems but not given to sweeping change in order to integrate blacks into the white-run establishment.

"The problems facing constitutional reform cannot be resolved overnight," the radio commentary said.

"But as a new administration takes over tomorrow, it does so with the promise of a new style of government that will lead South Africa into a period not only of decisive reform but also of renewal in the political and economic

life of the country," it said.

De Klerk's critics question whether the pace of reform will satisfy the voteless black majority or ease foreign pressures for more economic sanctions against South Africa.

South Africa's leading newspaper for blacks, the Sowetan, Tuesday gave de Klerk credit for having strong nerves.

The paper referred to de Klerk's decision last week to allow a series of protest marches in South African cities which would normally be banned.

"But that will not remove the demand by an ever-growing number of people for a united, non-racial, democratic South Africa," the Sowetan added.

Teenager releases hostages

MCKEE, Kentucky (AP) — An armed teenager stalked into a high school classroom, fired a shot at the ceiling and took 11 classmates hostage Monday, police and witnesses said. After a day-long standoff, he released them all and surrendered.

Several shots were fired, but no one was injured in the confrontation, police said.

Nearly 500 other students inside Jackson County high school were evacuated after the incident began around 9:50 a.m. (1350 GMT), the state police and local law enforcement officials said.

The youth, Dustin Pierce, whose only request to police was to speak to his father, told his hostages he did not want to hurt anyone. The last two hostages were freed shortly after 5 p.m. (2100 GMT), and the teenager gave up about an hour and a half later, authorities said.

The state police declined to identify the hostage-taker, but classmates said he was a 17-year-old student at the school. McKee is a town of 550 people about 80 kilometres southeast of Lexington in the Appalachian foothills.

The teen, who released his hostages throughout the day in

exchange for items such as pizza, soft drinks and cigarettes, "said he wasn't going to hurt anybody," according to Craig Eversole, a classmate who was one of the hostages. "He said he wasn't going to shoot anybody."

Police trooper Ed Robinson said the hostage-taker was armed with a shotgun, a .357-caliber Magnum revolver and "some type of automatic pistol." Eversole identified the other weapons as a .44-caliber Magnum and a 12-gauge shotgun.

Robinson also said Pierce apparently held one hostage overnight — the son of school principal Betty Bond. He said the two boys arrived at school in the younger Bond's red pickup, and it appeared that the armed youth had been holding the principal's son since the night before.

It was not clear why the youth took over the classroom. Authorities described him as a newcomer to the school who was living with his grandparents, but some students said they had known him for years.

Police captain John Lile said the boy's parents are separated.

Robinson said the student's first request had been to speak with his father who lives in Florida and was contacted. He later asked to talk with his grandparents.

Eversole, 15, said he was in the classroom when the armed youth came through the door after reportedly firing a shot in the school parking lot.

"He never said nothing," Eversole said. "He shot the ceiling and told the teacher to leave and let two rows of students leave. ... He didn't say nothing, why he was doing it or nothing."

Robinson said the boy appeared relatively calm, but fired one shot at a news helicopter. A state police spokesman in Frankfort later denied that shots were fired at the helicopter.

"You could see he didn't really want to hurt anybody. They were all his friends. But I'm sure he needs help," deputy county coroner Don Johnson said.

"The little town we live in — you just don't have things like this happening here, but it seems like it can happen anywhere now," Johnson said.



Two little Bogota girls on their way to school pass the state coffee bank which was destroyed by a bomb blast believed to have been carried out by henchmen of drug barons.

Bogota bombings unabated; Barco urges national unity

COLOMBIA (Agencies) — Colombia continues to be wracked by almost daily bombings as drug traffickers resist a government crackdown and President Virgilio Barco has urged Colombians to join the crusade against drugs.

Two bombs exploded Monday night in Bogota. One, at a shopping centre, injured a child, a man and woman, the Colombian radio chain RCN said in a report from the scene.

A man was seen placing the bomb in a pile of garbage bags in front of a store, witnesses told an RCN reporter.

The other bomb was thrown from a car at a substation of the government-owned telephone company, a spokesman for the national police said.

A guard shot one of several men placing that bomb, and the wounded man and several companions fled in a car moments before the dynamite exploded, the police spokesman said.

Security was tight at the U.S.

embassy in Bogota, hit by a shoulder-fired rocket that did not explode and caused only superficial damage.

Six bombs exploded Sunday, three in Cali and three in Bogota.

A total of 47 bombings have injured 121 people in three weeks. No one has claimed responsibility, but the government assumes all were the work of drug traffickers.

"Colombia's enemies are trying to break society's back through violence," Barco said in a statement Monday.

"Never before was national participation in this struggle so necessary. Unity against the common enemy — the criminal international drug trafficking organisation — must come before the

natural differences that exist between good Colombians.

"Now is not the time for opportunism, egotism, or the defence of private interests against the supreme interests of the nation. It is the hour of greatness," Barco said.

The president called the crackdown on drug barons he announced a month ago "a crusade for democracy and peace in which every citizen must be a combatant for morality and the fatherland."

Traffickers are believed to be using bombs in hopes of forcing the government into dropping an emergency decree under which they can be extradited to the United States.

The domestic news agency Colprens said a Bogota judge had issued an arrest warrant for the head of an Israeli security firm alleged to have aided drug lords.

It said Yair Klein, head of the Hod Hahanit (spearshead) security company, was charged with criminal conspiracy.

The report, which a Justice Ministry spokeswoman said she could not confirm, said a warrant had also been issued for another Israeli identified as Arik Acer.

Klein, a former army colonel who is back in Israel, has said he provided "self-defence" training to farmers in Colombia but has denied any links to drug traffickers.

In Bogota, the church has expressed scepticism over calls for negotiations to end violence.

"I don't see how there can be any dialogue or conversations with people whose mentality is one of violence, whose attitude is arrogant and who support themselves on the basis of immorality," Cardinal Mario Revollo Bravo told reporters at an impromptu news conference as he left a church meeting in Bogota Sunday.

The statement by Revollo Bravo was the strongest yet by the church against the drug traffickers.

Deng returns from the 'dead'

PEKING (AP) — China's senior Deng Xiaoping Tuesday joked about foreign reports of his death — and how the fact that he proved to be alive had helped the Hong Kong stock exchange.

Deng, 85, also told Japanese lawmaker Masayoshi Ito that among the politicians he most respected were Richard Nixon, Henry Kissinger and Japan's former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka, men who led the way in improving their countries' relations with China.

The meeting at the Great Hall of the People was the second for China's reclusive leader in three days. Last Saturday Deng appeared in public for the first time in three months when he held talks with Chinese-American physicist T.D. Lee.

Deng's re-emergence after the long absence has, for the moment, dispelled speculation that he is gravely ill with cancer and may not have long to live.

Ito, who heads Japan's parliamentarians league for Japan-China friendship, opened the meeting by commenting that Deng appeared to be in the same good health as when they met a year ago, despite reports that he was seriously ill.

Deng laughingly replied that the foreign media had already declared him dead or very sick.



Deng Xiaoping

Such reports caused the Hong Kong stock market to fall, he said, adding that the market had recovered when he reappeared Saturday with Lee, a Nobel prize-winning physicist.

"In reality I have always been healthy," Deng said.

Yoshiro Hayashi, a Liberal Democratic Party lawmaker and member of the delegation, provided details of the meeting to the Japanese press.

Deng praised the "high political consciousness" of Nixon, Kissinger and Tanaka, who helped bring about the normalisation of relations with China even though China was then in the throes of the leftist cultural revolution.

Kissinger, then National Security Council (NSC) adviser, made a secret trip to Peking in 1971 to set the stage for Nixon's dramatic visit in February 1972.

Tanaka, who like Nixon was later to be forced out of office by scandal, travelled to China in September 1972 to normalise relations between the two countries.

Was or wasn't Yeltsin inebriated?

WASHINGTON (AP) — The American who sponsored Boris N. Yeltsin's tour of United States denies accusations published by a Soviet newspaper that the Communist Party maverick was publicly drunk for much of the trip.

"If there was any problem with Yeltsin, it was jet lag," said Jim Garrison, executive director of the Esalen Institute Soviet-American Exchange programme, which sponsored the nine-day, 11-city tour.

"Most of the time he was cold sober."

Pravda, organ of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, Monday reprinted an article from the Italian newspaper La Repubblica saying Yeltsin was repeatedly drunk during the tour and squandered his lecture fees shopping.

Yeltsin "leaves behind him a wake of catastrophic prophecies, insane expenses, interviews, and above all the perfume of Jack Daniels black label," said the article, translated into Russian.

Pravda did not comment on the article, but advertised it in a front-page box that said Yeltsin found the United States "a holiday, a stage, a bar 5,000 kilometres long."

Yeltsin, interviewed as he arrived back in Moscow from the trip, called the report "garbage."

"It's a simple lie, slander and revenge for the fact that Americans received us with

admiration," he said, flushing with anger.

While in the United States, Yeltsin said President Mikhail S. Gorbachev had made mistakes and faced a potential revolution from Soviet citizens dissatisfied with the pace of reform.

Yeltsin was dumped from his job as Moscow party chief and his post on the ruling Politburo for making similar comments in late 1987. But Moscow voters overwhelmingly elected him to the newly constituted Congress of People's Deputies in March.

Before leaving the United States, Yeltsin "predicted the knives would be out on his return," said Garrison, who accompanied him throughout the tour.

"What Pravda has done is for political motivations," said Garrison.

Asked to comment on reports that Yeltsin drank a bottle and a half of whiskey the night before he spoke in Baltimore last Tuesday, Garrison said:

"He certainly did not finish off a bottle and a half of Jack Daniels. The entire delegation of five Soviets drank a bottle. But for five Soviet men to drink a bottle of Jack Daniels, that's normal. That's the culture. Soviets tend to drink a lot."

Yeltsin suffered from jet lag and a hectic schedule, and by the time he spoke in Baltimore, said Garrison, "He had not slept for three nights."

U.N. shifts focus to global issues

UNITED NATIONS (R) — With the "cold war" apparently drawing to an end, the confrontational debates that once marked the United Nations General Assembly are giving way to discussion of more global issues such as drugs, environment and the world economy.

These problems are expected to dominate much of the debate among major powers as well as the Third World majority in the assembly, which formally opens its 44th session Tuesday.

Nevertheless, serious regional conflicts remain unresolved. The more than 150 resolutions before the assembly reflect the world body's concern with Afghanistan, Cambodia, Central America, Lebanon, the Israeli-Palestinian

conflict, and the Gulf.

In Africa, the highest U.N. peacekeeping operation in decades, to supervise Namibia's transition to independence from South Africa, reaches a climax during the session with elections for a constituent assembly set for November.

The United Nations has more than 6,000 troops, police and civilians involved in the operation which costs more than \$400 million, in addition to the U.N.'s regular budget of over \$800 million.

"Anything could happen there," one Western diplomat said. "Every week it's a miracle to get to the end of it without something else happening."

First on the agenda Tuesday is the election of Nigeria's U.N. ambassador, Joseph Garba, 46, a former foreign minister, as assembly president.

The presidency rotates among the U.N.'s five regional groups and Garba was the unanimous choice of African states. He succeeds Dante Caputo, former foreign minister of Argentina, elected last year as Latin America's representative.

The annual general debate, when heads of state, prime ministers and foreign ministers deliver major speeches, begins next Monday with a heavy Latin American representation and a presentation from U.S. President George Bush.

The United States, Britain, Brazil and Colombia and other nations are all expected to call for worldwide action to curtail international drug trafficking.

The environment will be the main topic of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's speech when she comes to the assembly next month.

However, global action to protect the environment will not be the preserve of the wealthier nations.

The non-aligned countries have already made it clear they will propose an annual fund to protect the environment as well as demand action to ease the \$1.3 trillion debt burden of developing countries.

COLUMN 8

Thames race moves to Chicago

CHICAGO (AP) — Crews from Oxford and Cambridge universities rowed past the Tower and Wrigley field they moved their 160-year rowing rivalry from the Thames to the Chicago. The event's organiser, Mowbray, originally wanted to complete against a west team, but when he found no local teams could match land's talent, he contacted bridge. Oxford's nine-man won Saturday's race by less than a length, though it was counted in the official win-loss record compiled since 1829 victories for Cambridge and Oxford, which has won 14 last 15 matches. The Chicago was 3.2 kilometres, about that of London's, and a hairpin turn that prompted, gered start. It was the first British universities race other in the United States official races are held in Ma the Thames. As the Oxford stepped up to collect trophies, they hoisted their swain — or steersman — on shoulders and tossed him in river. "I did a good job, so why," said Martin Watts, London, as he pulled him and wrung himself out.

Wrong number — right friendship

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — F years ago Leonard Brow Swindon, England, meant the offices of a Chicago may to say he had not received latest edition. Instead, B Marilyn Carroll in Univ Park, Pennsylvania, answered the call while w as a switchboard operator Pennsylvania State Univ and after polite introduction two continued talking. B now 81, this month travel his phone-pal's home in / and has spent the past two getting to know her and husband, Tom Harmon. "I ring her up every so often t out how she was getting i There was no regular in between calls," said Bro retired British railway w "It was just that I liked her and she sounded very nice t phone and so we kept it up said. "After a while, the ators would recognise his and say to me, 'It's your Brown'," said Mrs. Harm

Rare whale dies

VALLEJO, California (A) The second of two rare be whales that beached them died Monday after a reco days in captivity, officia Marine World-Africa USA. Hundreds of volunteers helped care for the young m mammals, which had neve fore survived in captivity, whale that died Monday. A der, was found Aug. 24 on C Beach in San Francisco w second beaked whale that named Nicholas. Alexander named suffering from pneum but Marine World Presi Mike Demetrius said the cause of death will not be k pending final results of a k py and pathology tests. "H he same thing the other did before it died," said Deme "He began swimming very y around the pool." Nie died of a severe case of pne nia Sept. 8. Alexander had eating well and was given a of antibiotics Sunday night, volunteer was in the pool w whale when it died, he Marine researchers had no pected them to survive their night in captivity. Researc have not yet been able to v which of 18 species of be whale Nicholas and Alex were.

Global weather (major world cities)

| | MIN. | MAX. | WIND | WIND |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|
| AMSTERDAM | 12 | 14 | 17 | 63 |
| ATHENS | 18 | 24 | 30 | 86 |
| BANGKOK | 28 | 32 | 37 | 99 |
| BANGKOK | 25 | 27 | 33 | 91 |
| Buenos Aires | 12 | 23 | 21 | 69 |
| CAIRO | 20 | 28 | 32 | 90 |
| CHICAGO | 11 | 22 | 28 | 78 |
| COPENHAGEN | 16 | 21 | 18 | 68 |
| FRANKFURT | 14 | 22 | 22 | 72 |
| GENEVA | 12 | 24 | 28 | 78 |
| MONTREAL | 25 | 27 | 30 | 86 |
| ISTANBUL | 18 | 27 | 27 | 81 |
| LONDON | 16 | 21 | 21 | 70 |
| LOS ANGELES | 18 | 24 | 23 | 73 |
| MADRID | 15 | 20 | 26 | 79 |
| MEXICO | 28 | 32 | 35 | 95 |
| MOSCOW | 10 | 23 | 23 | 73 |
| NEW DELHI | 24 | 28 | 35 | 95 |
| NEW YORK | 17 | 23 | 20 | 68 |
| PARIS | 16 | 20 | 25 | 77 |
| ROME | 14 | 27 | 29 | 84 |
| TOKYO | 11 | 22 | 22 | 72 |
| VIENNA | 16 | 21 | 27 | 80 |